POCAHONTAS COUNTY BICENTENNIAL

Vol. 1

G.L.VAUGHAN

POCAHONTAS COUNTY BICENTENNIAL

"THE POCAHONTAS TIMES "

Jannary 1, 1976 to December 31st,1976. With some extra pages from the desk and files of the writer.

Vol.1
of
Four.

1St. Book for writer.
2nd. Book for Editor Times.
3rd. Book for P.C.H.S.
4th. Book for Meade Waugh's Family collection.

Note: It is expected that I might collect Four books this Bicentennial year and distribute as above.

Glen L. Vaughan
Lt. U.S.N. (Ret).
400 Melvin Avenue
Annapolis, Md.
21401

POCAHONTAS IN APPALACHIA

All of us Hillbillies that were born and grew up on the ridges, in the valleys, hills and hollows, the Greenbrier Valley and river - especially in the confines of Pocahontas County can never forget the states Magazine, "Wonderful West Virginia, Almost Heaven".

All the scenes and views of their early teenage years and on through manhood. There is something wonderful there that forever brings our memories back to the times of our early years.

One remembers all the wonderful men and women who helped us over the rough spots, our Sunday School teachers, Graded and High School teachers and staff.

Especially us young teanagers who needed advise and help from our elders on survival in the woods on hunting and camping trips. Many of these men will be mentioned in detail later in this set of books.

Men like Mr. Calvin Price, G.D. McNeill, Ed. Richardson, Mr. C.J.Richardson, (My Sunday school Teacher), Mr. Ira Brill, Ed. Moore. S.N.Hench. Clawson McNeill, Dr. O.H. Kee, J.W.Yeager, Dr. Norman Price, Mr. David Lang. J. Buckley and his Brother Ralph. These and many more that will come to mind during the coming months. There will be women too - as there were many who were always ready to help young people.

Some present day writers write that us mountain people always have to be ready to prove to our neighbors and those on the outside that we are capable in our chosen fields - my way of thinking is that all we have to prove is to ourselves that we can stand on our own feet. Believe in yourself is all thats needed.

GLV.

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This is a picture of the Boy Scout Troop in the 1917 Fourth of July Parade.

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR
THURSDAY, FEB. 12, 1976

Donation

Lt. USN (Ret.) Glen L. Vaughan has sent to us a thick notebook filled with copies of his large historical collection of papers concerning the Waugh family, things relating to Pocahontas County, and items connected with his long and honorable service in the U. S. Navy. These will go in the Pocahontas County Historical Museum.

He is preparing to make an additional donation of books to the Pocahontas County High School library.

We have a 1922 Oddfellows picture Mr. Vaughan sent that needs some people identified. If someone is familiar with those people, please come in and help us.

As we were glancing through the book our eyes found this item which is appropriate for Boy Scout week.

"When I was thirteen Mr. Calvin Price (we never called him Cal like every one else) and Mr. Douglas McNeill organized Pocahontas County's first Boy Scout troop. I belonged to the Beaver Patrol along with Denny Lynch, Guy Yeager, Clark Carter, Walter Mason, Winfield Hobart, Charlie Camper, Lawrence Kennison. We met in the basement of the Presbyterian Church weekly and one of our first tasks was to earn the money for our outfits, uniforms, handbook, knife, etc., all this came to the grand total of $12.75. All of our field trips and camping expeditions up and down the river were on foot." (Ed. This must have been 1915.)

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR

THURSDAY, NOV. 20, 1975

Marlinton Graded School 1907—1914

I started in the Marlinton Graded School in the fall term of 1907. The first few weeks (2—5) of the first grade were held in the dining room of the old Dilley Hotel on the Knapps Creek bank across the street from the Methodist Church. Then we transferred to the new building without its outdoor plumbing. The First Grade teacher was Miss Anna Wallace; many, many people of Marlinton owe their start to this great teacher. This was the second room on the left going in, at the bottom of the stairway leading to the second floor.

1908 and across the hall to the Second Grade to a Miss Beckett, a small, stout lady but a good teacher.

1909 the Third Grade—first room to the right on entering, teacher was Miss Sally Cromwell, whose father was also a teacher. She was married around 1911 or 1912. The Cromwells lived in the Andy Thomas house on Lower Camden Avenue, across the street from where Clyde Moore lived.

1910 and across the hall to the Fourth Grade which was taught by Miss Anna Lee Ervine, a sister-in-law of Dr. Kramer, the dentist. Miss Irvine was a fine teacher but strict.

1911, upstairs to the Fifth Grade, first room at the left of the stairs and Miss Catherine Ervine, one of my best teachers, so far. Miss Ervine had classes one night a week in her home for the pupils that needed help. Miss Ervine started me off on history research and geography.

1912-1913-1914, the auditorium had been divided into two or three rooms by then and three years in these two rooms with teachers: Mr. Elliot Smith (son of Grant Smith); Mrs. Faith Baxter, who I believe was a widow in her early thirties, and both rooms were supervised by the great "George Douglas Mc Neill." Mr. Elliot handed out the punishments and many were the students that had to attend school in the Methodist Church, taught by Rev. Bean and later by Rev. Keen, father of Clark, William and Ruth.

Much later when the High School was built, the Eighth Grade was held there with Miss Sudie Chambers, from Kentucky, as teacher.

Just a note to Mrs. Ward's article—Miss Minnie Jane Merrell was also head football coach as well as principal. She won a few games, too.

Lieut. Glen L. Vaughan, U. S.Navy (Ret.)

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR
THURSDAY, JAN. 22, 1976
Pioneer Days—July 9-11, '76

Madam Editor of the Pocahontas Times!

I have been so happy to see the historical sketches in the Times, especially regarding the Marlinton Graded School and the reference I found to my mother in Ret. Navy Lt. Glen Vaughan's letter: "1908 and across the hall to the Second Grade to a Miss Beckett, a small, stout lady but a good teacher."

My mother died when I was very young, but her pictures always showed her to be small and slender, with curly black hair... which I deeply regretted I didn't inherit. I've wondered who in Pocahontas County still living might have gone to school to her, or remembers her.

I've met one of her students: Pleas Richardson (Mrs. Roy Campbell of Huntington) had my mother as her third grade teacher, and went home with her to Pickaway in Monroe County for a visit during summer vacation. What a thrill it was to hear a firsthand account of her these many years later, from Mrs. Campbell who also told me of meeting my mother's beau that summer. He later became my father. I was pleased Mrs. Campbell had thought my mother was so pretty.

I walked into C. J. Richardson's Hardware Store about four years ago and asked Mr. Charles if he remembered my father—Mr. Bob Steele from Alderson who sold V-C fertilizer through southern W. Va.... and into Pocahontas Co. He replied, "Your mother... she stayed with us the two years she taught in Malinton...in the house that's

Several people, even in the Historical Society, told me that was a mistake—the Richardson's house was next door...they didn't know that the Richardsons lived in the Museum house while their present home was being built.

My mother's only sister, now 87, living in Dayton, told me mother rode the train from Ronceverte to Marlinton...and taught in the new school building there.

Some of you know how I wished that old building could have been preserved as a historic landmark, useful as a community center or for shops, farmers' market or business offices, continuing Marlinton's beautiful old red brick distinctiveness. It's gone now. We'll have to rely on word pictures for the past, and thanks to Lt. Vaughan for his contribution.

Sincerely,
Virginia Steele
(Teacher of Homebound and Hospitalized Students, Kg through 12th grade, Berkeley, California, and trying to get back to Pocahontas County)

OCT. 30, 1975

Letter

I read with interest "Miss Pearl's" recollections of the Marlinton Grade School. I'm sure that by now someone has remembered that Mr. B. B. Williams was a principal prior to Mr. Grant Smith. Mr. Williams was in charge in 1919. He was my first principal and he made quite an impression on me my first day of school. Mr. Grant Smith was my last principal. There may have been one or more in between, I can't recall. I am looking forward to Miss Nancy's article.

Best Wishes,
Meade L. Waugh

Marlinton Graded School

The Marlinton Graded School brick building was erected in 1906 and last week the ground was leveled after the building had been torn down by Tom Pritt.

We have been trying to get the history of the school. Pearl Carter Ward was a student in the "new" school and we asked her to remember all she could.

Nancy McNeel Currence, always a good source of information, has jotted down all the things she remembers and was told about Marlinton School.

From Mrs. Ward:

The first schoolhouse in Marlinton was a one-room building on the bank of Knapps Creek, about where the old Wimer building stood. Mr. John S. Moore, father of Mrs. Mabel Hudson, Mrs. Majorie Roberts and the late Mrs. Lura M. Brill and Clyde Moore, was teacher.

Mrs. Grace (Andrew) Price conducted a private school in her home. She had two daughters, Margaret and Agnes, whom she was teaching. With her two daughters, she added six others to her group: Pauline Schumaker, Katherine Irvine, Arden Killingsworth, Gertrude Wilson, Pearl Carter, and another girl.

When the Marlinton Graded School was built, comprising of six rooms and one large auditorium reaching across the front of the building on the second floor—stage facing the hill, the one room school was closed and Mrs. Price discontinued her classes. All these pupils entered the Marlinton Grade School.

Some of the early teachers were Miss Anna Wallace, a Mrs. Johnson, wife of supervisor at the Tannery, Miss Sallie Wilson, a Mr. Chapman, Miss Virginia Shields, Mr. Lanty Moore, Mrs. Nora Burns, Miss Anna Sullivan.

Principals were: Mr. L. W. Burns, 1907—1912; Mr. A. D. Givens, 1912—1913; Mr. C. B. Cornwell, 1913—1915; Mr. T. M. Martin, 1915—1916.

Miss Minnie Jane Merrels was principal while high school classes were held in the Court House and probably was principal of Graded School also. If anyone knows of another principal before Grant Smith, please let us know.

After Grant Smith was William Smith, then J. Z. Johnson, N. E. Whitman, Alice Waugh, and Robert Keesee at the present time.

E. D. King was the builder of the Marlinton School Building in 1906. The Board of Education

consisted of Andrew Price, president, A. E. Smith, J. E. Barlow, J. H. Patterson, secretary.

Mr. L. W. Burns and Miss Blanche Smith taught subjects required for two years high school. These classes were held in the auditorium. Desks were arranged on the stage for classes, then removed for any type of entertainment. Among those students were Paul Overholt, Arden Killingsworth, Charles Richardson, Pauline Schumaker, Katherine Irvine, Wilbur Sharp, and Grace Sheets.

In 1914, the auditorium was replaced by three classrooms. Mr. Cornwell conducted high school classes. Miss Lucille McClintic taught languages.

At the end of the two year course, those whose parents were financially able sent their sons and daughters to various colleges.

In the spring of 1916, four students, Amy Burns, Joe Burns, Pearl Carter and Clyde East, were graduated from a three-year high school course, the first graduating class from Marlinton High School as well as the last.

In the spring of 1916, a bond was floated to build the Edray District High School.

Only one of the four graduates, Pearl Carter, was left to enter the fourth year offered by the new school. (Amy began teaching, Joe entered the seminary to study for the ministry, and Clyde had finished school.)

In the fall of 1916, Miss Minnie Jane Merrills assumed the principalship of the high school. School was conducted in the County Court House. During terms of court classes were held in the basement of the Marlinton Presbyterian Church.

Classes were conducted in 1916-1917 by Miss Merrills, Miss Dorothy Guy, and a Mr. Harvey.

Two graduates emerged in May 1917, Pearl Carter and William D. Keene, the son of the Methodist minister. These were the first two graduates from Edray District High School.

Prior to the one-room school a private school for the family of Mr. Andrew McLaughlin was conducted in the McLaughlin home which is now the apartment property of the late Arden Killingsworth. Miss Anna Wallace was the private teacher. There were one or two other students besides the McLaughlin family—the late Mrs. Lena Moore Baxter and Mrs. Levia Gibson Carter.

Next we will print Mrs. Currence's recollections.

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR

THURSDAY, NOV. 6, 1975

Pipping Days—July 9-11, '76

From Mrs. Currence:

In 1890 Col. John T. McGraw, of Grafton, purchased farms known as Marlins Bottom for the town site. He was a promoter and it is interesting to read of the fight to move the County seat from Huntersville to Marlinton. They didn't know whether the B&O or the C&O would go through Marlinton.

1891, Town laid off in lots.

1900, Town incorporated and Andrew Price first mayor.

1900, C&O train.

1899, First bank—Bank of Marlinton.

1880, First school established in Price Hollow, on land given by Andrew McLaughlin. McLaughlins, Moores, Kees, Prices and Johnsons attended the school. Some of the teachers in that school were: Judge George W. McClintic, Dr. William T. Price, Montgomery Matthews, Miss Emma Warwick, J. W. Price, John McLaughlin John S. Moore, Uriah Bird, and Charles Cook. (Charles Cook was a graduate of Brown University and came south during Civil War as one of Mosby's Men and married in Edray.) Teachers received $18 to $25 per month for a three or four month school. School was often held in summer months.

Early 1900's, the "new school" was built and was the building across from the Marlinton United Methodist Church which was recently torn down.

1897, $2,759 paid all the teachers in the District.

Among the teachers in this school were: Mrs. Verdie B. Mann, Mrs. Rella F. Yeager, Dora Brownlee, Annie V. King, J. E. Tipton (Washington and Lee graduate), Horace Lockridge, John Sydenstricker, Mary Frances McNulty (Mother of Nancy Currence), T. D. Moore, Davis Barlow, Sallie W. Wilson, and Judge Summers H. Sharp.

1890-91, A. M. Byrd established a school to teach advanced studies. He ran it like a military school and they used Confederate uniforms and muskets in their drills. It was in the old Harlow Waugh building that used to be near the river bridge across from the Hospital.

1906, Brick Marlinton Graded School was built.

1907, L. W. Burns established first High School. Two year course. This was held in the old Marlinton Graded School auditorium. The auditorium at that time was the two front rooms on the second floor; the stage was on the side toward the hill. The two teachers were L. W. Burns and Miss Blanche Smith (Mrs. S. R. Neel). Mr. Burns was paid $125 and Miss Smith $50, so Mr. Burns paid her $15 extra out of his salary. The next year the Board paid her $75. (Mrs. S. R. Neel told this to Nancy Currence many years ago.)

Principals of High School were L. W. Burns, A. D. Givens, of Parkersburg, one year, C. B. Cornwell, of Jackson County. In 1914 T. M. Martin, of Martinsburg, was principal and he left to join the army. Miss Minnie Jane Merrells, of Buckhannon, V. G. Emory, Wheeling, C. J. Ramsey, G. D. McNeill, H. A. Yeager, Fred Smith, who was also principal of the new Pocahontas County High School.

Teachers in the High School included Miss Elizabeth Roads, Miss Thea Seymour, Miss Lillian Louks, Ethel Shugrow, who taught music for $20; she was from Ronceverte and gave private lessons, too; Miss Guseman, Home Economics, and Miss Emma Myers, Commerce.

1916, Citizens voted 359 to 188 to build a new high school, cost not to exceed $10,000. During this time, high school classes were held in the Court House.

1916, First graduate.

1926, New addition to High School built, $40,000.

At one time, a dormitory for female students and teachers was planned but didn't get past the discussion period.

Marlinton, W. Va. (New School Building.) 1907 Postcard

Elliot Smith was principal of Marlinton Graded School during World War I, then T. E. Walker for one year and then Grant Smith, Mrs. Lena Kennedy tells us.

T. E. Walker was principal of Marlinton Graded School in 1920-21, the year before Grant Smith became principal, according to Mrs. S.H. Barlow.

More History

I was reading in the Times about the School Building being torn down. I have some recollections of that myself.

First I went to the School in the building over near the Creek to Miss Georgia Shearer, then to Miss Sallie Wilson; I remember that so well—she used a ruler on my hand. Also Davis Barlow and Summers Sharp taught there.

I also remember when some of the boys from the west side set tacks in Mr. Barlow's chair.

I went to school to Miss Virginia Shields in 1910, and finished Free School under Mr. Moore. There were 23 girls and 3 boys in the class: a boy I don't remember, Clyde East and myself.

I have been thinking of adding a little to the write-up about the organizing of the officers in 1900.

Mother had a flock of geese that she brought down from the Big Spring property, that is where the upper fish hatchery now is. Police Anderson's first act of policing was to take the geese to the lockup, and Mom told him he could keep them; the next morning the geese were home.

While I am in the mood I have been thinking about a story about some man you mentioned a while back seeing a panther on Gauley Mountain.

In 1905 or 1906 Mr. Brown Yeager went to my Dad to get a rig to haul a surveying crew to near Slatyfork, to survey Gauley Mountain for West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company. Dad had no drivers available, so he put the crew and supplies in a 3 seat rig and put me in as driver. We went to the run that goes off 219 to Sharps Knob, went to the head of the hollow, pitched camp, and about 9 p.m. a panther came down and put on a screaming show that stood my hair on end, and a colored cook was whiter than snow; the horses charged and snorted until one of the men had to get out and hold them.

Next morning I was so glad to get out of there; they got me hooked up and started; I went down to the river, had to make a short turn right to get up in to the road; there I upset the rig, tied the horses to a bush, walked back and got the men to get me into the road.

Jane, I am convinced there are no panthers in these mountains now, as I have driven all of them at all hours, and there are hundreds of people camping in every hollow in all the woods in the State. Have never heard of a panther screaming that any one ever mentioned.

Four of us kids went to Tea Creek fishing in 1910 or 12 and lay out one night. A panther came off the mountain and gave us a concert, we yelled, threw fire sticks, shot up a box of 22 short shells, and never slept, but moved fast the first sign of light.

Claude E. McLaughlin
211 Church Street
Lewisburg
West Virginia 24901

P 8

Bernard Harrison, of Atlantic City, was here this week to visit his cousin, Mrs. Paul Overholt. He stopped by the Times Office and we had a most interesting talk. His father, A. M. Harrison, had a general department store beside the Royal Drug Store and old Bank of Marlinton. The store was destroyed by fire in 1902 when most of Marlinton burned, then was rebuilt, and they sold out to Kleins in 1909, and this was later Schuchats Store. The elder Mr. Harrison worked for Paul Golden, who was his brother-in-law, for six months before he opened his own store. Bernard Harrison has two brothers and a sister who were born in Marlinton. Mr. Harrison himself was born in Baltimore; he attended school in the home of Mrs. Andrew Price and then in the school by the creek. He remembers a mouse running around in the school by the creek with Mr. John Moore teacher, and also the stage curtain catching fire at a Christmas program in the "new" Graded School.

Editor of Pocahontas Times:

Your editorial in June 26 Times was very interesting. My mother, Mrs. Ada Grimes, of Huntersville, gave the Bradshaw Bible to William T. Price several years ago when he was writing the history of the County residents. Bradshaw's daughter, Mrs. Samuel Hogsett, was my great-great-grandmother, the mother of Renick Hogsett, of Huntersville, who still owned two farms on Browns Creek, formerly owned by his grandfather Bradshaw; the land around Huntersville and on Browns Creek for many years was owned by Bradshaw's relatives, Moores and McLaughlins. I am 73 years old now, but when I was a kid almost everyone I knew was a cousin. Charlie Moore, our nearest neighbor on Browns Creek, married a tiny woman who gave him fourteen children; three of his daughters were the only school teachers I ever had (Grace, Beulah and Madge). In those days we never had any newcomers to the community of farmers. I am surprised and distressed at the crime reported in the Pocahontas Times, now. In the old days nobody locked their doors. The only stealing I ever heard of was shortly after my folks had made their cane molasses; some one took a gallon or so from the cellar. Mother was very distressed, not by the loss but by the fact the part they stole was to be improved by more boiling; if she gave anyone anything or if they stole it she wanted it to be the best.

The old schoolhouse on Browns Creek (now probably gone) was the scene of many revivals. The old time Methodists were strict, but nosiy, when the shouthing began. Lamps were hanging from nails in the walls and candle flies or moths were having a field

one old preacher who yelled and threw his arms like crazy, got choked on one: he vomited on the pulpit. My father who was also a Methodist minister, was sitting on the pulpit. I asked him after we returned home why he did not laugh like everyone else; he said, "You laughed enough for us both." During the confusion my sister played the organ (a foot pump type), asked the choir to sing and eventually everything got back to normal. In those days we children were not allowed to go any place except church. My grandfather, once a year, sneaked me to Marlinton to a circus; he loved the clowns (and the oranges which could only be bought on trains and at the circus). We were in disgrace on our return home, and many prayers were offered for our sins. I loved the circus as any nine year old would. I came home with seashell necklaces and other trinkets (no dime stores anywhere then). We went in a road wagon, took our lunch, and picked up the neighbors and their children as we drove the ten miles to Marlinton. One of the highlights of the trip was the conversations after Joe Buzzard joined us riding his mule. He was a great church man and political ambitions had acquainted county. My grandfather was not a church man: although his brother, Wellington Hogsett., who lived at Mill Point, was a preacher, grandfather did not believe in anything he couldn't see, and didn't believe in some things he could see. He was never convinced the first airplane that crossed the mountains near his home in those early years was carrying the mail. He saw the dúst storms after the first World War but he never believed they were coming thousands of miles from the wheat fields of the West. He never believed there were caverns that people could walk in. He lived to be almost 90 years old. I regret now that I did not take him to Front Royal Virginia, and let him see the wonders of all the beautiful caverns in Virginia.

I am a widow now, I live with my daughter who works for NBC in broadcasting here in Washington, D. C. My other daughter is a supervisor with Allegheny Airlines at Washington National Airport, and my son has 2 music stores and sells Hammond organs and pianos.

Vera Ritchie
7423 Allan Ave.
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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITO

THURSDAY, DEC. 4, 1975

Pioneer Days—July 9-11, '76

County History.

We got started on Marlinton school history, then came the opera house, and this week we have some more recollections.

One of the Bicentennial Committee's projects is to bring Pocahontas County history up to date. We ask that every community gather together what history has been written and bring it up to date. We will print it in parts as you seek to get it or when it is finished.

This is a history of Marlinton printed in the Pocahontas Times in 1923.

First Things in Marlinton

The first settler was Jacob Marlin, and from him the town got its name. He was here in 1749, and nobody knows how much earlier. The place was first called Marlins Bottom. Changed in 1887 to Marlinton at the request of a Mrs. Skyles who moved here from Baltimore and who objected to the word Bottom as not being a nice word. The old timers were horrified when they found that the name had been changed on them over night, so to speak, but the damage was done, and all appeals to Congress failed to undo the harm. The lady soon afterwards moved away but she left us christened with a new name.

About twenty years ago the town almost unanimously petitioned Washington to change the name to McGraw. This change of name was refused because there was a postoffice in West Virginia by the name of McGraws. And so the name continues to be Marlinton, and it would be a bold bad citizen who would suggest a change of name now that a large and important town has developed under it, and has succeeded in acquiring more "good will" than any of the important centers of West Virginia.

The first court that I know of being held here was under an oak tree on the west side of the river above the bridge by Squire G.M. Kee. The first lawyer I ever heard plead in Marlinton was F. J. Snyder, a noted lawyer who lived in Huntersville. And he was opposed that day by L. M. McClintic, who is still with us, and who was just starting on his professional career.

The first term of the Circuit Court was held in June or October, 1893. The election to move the county seat from Huntersville to Marlinton was held in the fall of 1891, and a building at the corner of Fourth Avenue and Ninth Street was erected which is still called the Temporary Court house. The judge was Judge A. N. Campbell, of Monroe county. He was a great lawyer. He was of commanding appearance. Over six feet tall, with a heavy black beard. He weighed three hundred and fifteen pounds.

The first sheriff of the county lived here, Major William Poage. His house was near Eleventh Street on Camden Avenue. In this house was born James A. Moffett, who was in his lifetime the president of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana. The first postmaster was James Ataly Price. The first student to go to college from this place was the late Rev. Wm. T. Price, A.B., A.M., D.D., who was born here in 1830, and who departed this life here at the age of ninety-one years.

The first recorded land title was 480 acres taking in a great part of the level land which dates from a survey made in 1751, by Gen. Andrew Lewis. This land is mentioned in his will as being at the mouth of Ewings Creek, by which name Knapps Creek was first known. Too much cannot be made of this fact that Gen. Andrew Lewis owned the heart of this town from 1751 to his death some thirty years afterwards. He was a great general of the Revolutionary War, and George Washington was his fidus Achates. In those early days of Washington's life, there can be no doubt that this was one of his most familiar haunts.

The first bank to be established was the Bank of Marlinton, followed in a few weeks by the Pocahontas Bank, which afterwards became the First National.

The first newspaper was The Times. The first store was opened by J. R. Apperson in a house now occupied as a dwelling which stands directly opposite the entrance of the bridge on the west side of the river.

The first business of any kind established here was a combined sawmill and carding mill built by James A. Price before the Civil war and which was located in the low place called the slough along the boulevard leading to Campbelltown, just opposite the home of A. C. Pifer.

It was run by water power, and the water came from Stony Creek. An effort to augment this power by water from the Greenbrier River from an intake just below the mouth of Stony Creek failed, and the plant itself was washed away in the flood of 1877, which is the highest water of which there is any authentic record.

This mill was in charge of a man by the name of James E. A. Gibbs, who was a man of the tenant class, and who barely made a living for himself and a large family. In fact the main remembrance that the older people had of the family was the struggle that they had to keep from starving. It was during this time that Gibbs was working on his model for a sewing machine. He fashioned a working model out of wood from a laurel root, which developed the idea of the chain stitch sewing machine, which entitles him to the claim of being an inventor of first order. The lock stitch idea was advertised some few years earlier, but it did not entitle the inventor to the distinction of being the inventor of the sewing machine, for the people of this vicinity know the Gibbs' idea antedated the lock stitch, and was on a different idea. Gibbs carried his invention to the north and formed a partnership with a mechanic by the name of Wilcox, and the manufacture of the machines began. Gibbs returned home, the Civil war broke out, the Gibbs family starved almost and at the end of five years Gibbs got back to Delaware, and found that Wilcox was turning out sewing machines at a great rate, and that the share of Gibbs had been put to his credit regularly in a bank, and from that time Gibbs was rich. In the nineties Gibbs came back for several visits. He was a very tall man—about six feet and seven inches, I think, wore a silk hat, and had the biggest nose that I ever saw on a human being. He said at that time he had taken out some one hundred and sixty three patents. The Wilcox & Gibbs sewing machine is still one of the standard machines offered to the public, and I believe it is considered the very best for heavy sewing, such as leather. I am not sure about this.

One of the earliest stores was opened by Paul Golden who is still with us though not in the mercantile business. A sign that he had painted on the store in his early days caused some hilarity among the nations in the world. It read: "Go no farther to be Cheated." The language is loose and capable of two constructions. Anyway it has the right to be grouped under the head of Commercial Candor.

The first school of which there is any authentic record was opened in a log cabin that stood near Riverside. It closed after a session or two. It was a private enterprise. There must have been some school earlier than that for one of the fields on Stony Creek has always been called the School House Meadow. Up to the eighties, the nearest school was Huntersville. In the eighties, the free school system having been established, a one room frame building was put up on the Price Run where the house of William Stewart now stands. Miss Emma Warwick, Judge Geo. W. McClintic, County Superintendent, W. M. Mathews, Rev. Dr. Price, Squire Charles Cook, from Rhode Island, were some of the noted persons who taught in that little school house. The next school was a two room building, still standing, as the Ira Irvine building on the banks of Knapps Creek. The next was the present graded school building, a substantial brick, which has become too small though augmented by a still finer high school property. We had a great time building that eight roomed brick graded school, and there were many that predicted that there never would be a time when there was need of one half such a building. In fact even in that comparative recent time, it was very

TWO LINES MISSING.

X

The first teacher's institute was held in 1886 in the Presbyterian Church. The first church built was the Presbyterian church on the site of the present building. The first resident judge of the court, Judge S. H. Sharp. The first mayor of the town, Andrew Price. The first state senator, N. C. McNeil. The first Presidential Elector, Col. O. H. Kee. The first delegate to the legislature, L. M. Mc Clintic. The first member of the county court, Dr. N. R. Price. The first chief of police, J. A. Sharp.

The first train to arrive at Marlinton was in the year 1900, on the completion of the track laying to this point. It was made a public ceremony and some thousands gathered here and they barbecued beef and had a celebration. They told at Ronceverte that night that when the train got here that the great crowd gathered around the locomotive, and that the engineer requested them to give him room to turn his train around and that they cleared a space of some acres. It was not true. Not even an original lie. Only a localized anecdote.

But for excitement over first events let me refer you to the first jail delivery, when Armstrong and Cumberland got out of jail at dusk one evening in the nineties. The jail had been completed and it was the modern idea of a strong jail, and it was confidently expected that it would hold anybody. The county had suffered a series of bold robberies, and suspicion had attached to Alex Armstrong, an intelligent colored man, a native of this county, who had removed to an Ohio town. It was thought that he raided this county regularly, and that he would come to the nearest railroad station, and make a quick trip into the county and return with his booty. This belief was so sure that the authorities waited and watched for him to return, and he showed up one winter day travelling incognito with a big burly strange negro. R. K. Burns arrested them and they were indicted and afterwards convicted of the robbery of Capt. A. M. Edgar, held up at the point of a revolver in his own house after nightfall.

They lulled the jailer into a sense of security and when they got between him and the door of the cage, they shut the door and left and got away. A large force of volunteers assembled in an hour or so and patrolled the roads all night, and found nothing. But the elements warred against the fugitives. It was summer time, but the night saw one of the heaviest rainfalls that this country ever experienced. The accused travelled many miles that night but they lost their way and daylight found them about two miles from town. They had wandered all night, confused by the great tempest and the network of streams. They were exhausted. They took cover in the old Hamlin Chapel, on Stony Creek. They got as far as Laurel Creek about ten miles from Marlinton and surrendered to a volunteer posse and were brought in. They were pretty well starved.

Some of us old residents have never had a residence in any other town or city. And we feel that the only way that you can really know a town is to see it built. With the exception of the toll house and the McLaughlin house, I have seen every house built in this town. If I have not overlooked some odd house or two in a hasty mental survey, Yes a part of the B. M. Yeager house is older than that. That is a good deal to say for a town as substantial as Marlinton, with its court-house, bank buildings, school buildings, and churches. Especially the Methodist church now in the course of erection which will be one of the notable buildings of the State.

I often think of one of my boy friends many years ago saying that he had had a dream. That he seemed on top of Elk Mountain looking down over Marlins Bottom, and the bottom appeared to be roofed over. That is one dream that has come to pass.

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR

THURSDAY, JAN. 15, 1970

Reprinted from November 1934 Times

Green Bank Land Grants

Green Bank, W. Va.
October 23, 1934

Dear Cal:

Some time ago you asked me to write you a list or something concerning the original patents or land grants of the Green Bank community; I have forgotten which particular grants you mentioned, but, however, I will give you a list of the original Land Grants that are adjacent, and contiguous, and run with common lines, and are situated on the waters of the North Fork and Deer Creek, and should figure largely in the local history of the Green Bank community.

We don't know the exact date, but sometime long before the Revolutionary War, a dauntless band of pioneers possessed of adventurous spirits, crossed the Allegheny Mountains and from the summit of one of the loftiest peaks, where until then the foot of a white man had never trod, they viewed the vast expanse of the level land and forest of the Deer Creek Valley; returning probably to quaint old Williamsburg, they told of the wonderful discovered country which is now the Green Bank community, and thus opened the way for the venturesome pioneer who was destined to overcome difficulties and build homes in the Deer Creek Valley. But several years had passed when one day about 1765, the figure of a stalwart, broad-shouldered man could have been seen standing top of the wild and rugged knoll, which reach its rocky bluff high above the North Fork Creek, a short distance east of the junction of the North Fork and Deer Creek. He no doubt was alone save for the companionship of a long rifle which he leaned upon as he contemplated the glorious scenes that stretched before him, as he forecast the future of the beautiful landscape. This lone pioneer was John Warwick. He was one of those daring men who, as the tide of emigration started westward, had left his friends and family and after many days of hunting and exploring, reached the junction of North Fork and Deer Creek.

The scene so impressed John Warwick that he concluded to build a home and found a settlement on the waters of Deer Creek. After taking a tomahawk right or possession, which consisted of blazing a few trees and building a rude shack, he set out for his home in East Virginia to tell his people of the magnificent country he had discovered.

Immediately with his three sons, Andrew, John, Jr., and William, he persuaded a large number of settlers to accompany him to the Deer Creek Valley; the country through which they passed was one tangled almost impenetrable forest; the ax of the pioneer was never sounded in this region where every mile of the way might harbor some danger from the Indians; these pioneers knew not the meaning of fear; the war whoop of the Indians and the twang of the bow and arrow were familiar sounds to them. The old pole ax wielded by strong arms soon cleared some land and reared stout log cabins within the radius of three or four miles. Then new settlers moved in and the settlement began to grow and flourish, and the Red men began to be troublesome; some settlers were shot, and bands of hostile Indians prowled around and made it very dangerous.

An attack from the Indians was apprehended and the settlers determined to build a Fort as a defense for the infant settlement which was planned by Jacob Warwick and named for him, but was built by the people of the community; as a rule the old Indian Forts were built in the shape of a parallelogram. Peter Warwick told me that his grandfather said this fort was in circular form, and that the roof was covered with sods and dirt to prevent fire from the enemy. The white oak walls bristled with port holes and surrounded by a stockade fence presented an almost impregnable defense. This fort was used as a home for some of the settlers who often lived for weeks inside its walls.

For many years it remained a famous Fort on the frontier, having withstood several Indian attacks. The fort was situated in the forks of North Fork and Deer Creek on an elevation of ground that com-

manded a fine view of the surrounding country; now in west end of a field of F. H. Warwick; Mr. Warwick told me he had hauled several wagon loads of rock from the foundation and chimney of the old Fort.

The month of June 1780 must have been a very busy time for the early settlers of the Green Bank Community, due to the fact that they were surveying out their lands to secure grants or patents. It appears that there had been no surveying done prior to the Revolutionary War. June 7, 1780, is the date of the first survey as shown in the Augusta Grant Book No. 1, in the Auditors Office at Charleston, which was made for Jacob Warwick for 340 acres, June 8, 1780, James McCartee, 215 acres, June 9, 1780, William Nottingham, 300 acres, June 10, 1780, James Rucker, 361 acres. June 11, 1780, James Rucker, Jr., 345 acres June 12, 1780, Jacob Gillispie 400 acres; June 12, 1780, Thomas Jarvis, 400 acres, June 13, 1780, Thomas Cartmill, 358 acres, August 8, 1782, William Warwick 900 acres; Abraham Ingram, November 15, 1785, 138 acres. William Taylor, 1785, 230 acres, Godlip Hartman 1795, 313 acres. All these grants are recorded in Augusta County Grant Book No. 1; and Grants issued to James McKamey, James Kerney, John Warwick, Joseph Wooddell, Thomas Coberly, Thomas Wooddell, William Warwick, Daniel Kerr, James Munsen, Benona Griffin and Samuel Tallman are found recorded in Bath County, Book No. 1. This brings us up to 1795, when the speculators and land sharks began to secure grants for large tracts of land in the Allegheny Mountains bordering on the new settlements, which was Bath County at that time. A grant for 44,000 acres was issued to Thomas Wilson in 1795 This tract of land lies between the town of Marlinton, including the town of Dunmore and near the site of the old Cross Road School House below Green Bank and running through the loops of Deer Creek above Cass; most of it being on the East Side of the Greenbrier River. This entire tract was sold for a direct tax being levied by the Federal government, on the 14th day December, 1802, by the United States Marshall for the District of Virginia; and bought by Sampson Matthews for the sum of five dollars and one cent. On November 1, 1817, Sampson Matthews employed Samuel D. Poage to make a division of the 44,000 acre tract, the line to begin at a point on Arthur Grimes land, pass a high point of rocks on Michael Mountain which is about three hundred yards west of the Lookout Tower on the Michael Mountain and passes near the CCC Camps on the Browns Creek road on July 1, 1818, Sampson Matthews conveyed by deed the west end of the survey of, 9500 acres to John Moore, Andrew Ervine, James Waugh, Arthur and Charles Grimes. The east end of the tract was d sposed of by the Matthews and Jacob Warwick.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Meeks, of Fredericksburg, Pennsylvania, visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Oren Waugh, and her grandmother, Mrs. Maude Waugh, during the holidays. They were omitted from their list of guests in last week's paper.

Fred Smith, Leslie Montgomery and Vearl Haynes were another group that attended the Peach Bowl game in Atlanta.

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR
THURSDAY, FEB. 19, 1976
Pioneer Days—July 9-11, '76

History of Hillsboro Community (Pocahontas County

By Mary Isetta Wallace

The town of Hillsboro is located in a rich and beautiful valley. It is two and one-half miles from the nearest railroad station called Seebert and named in honor of a family by that name which settled there in the wilderness in the early days. Hillsboro was named for Richard Hill, the pioneer from North Carolina, who built his home on a good farm in the neighboring Lobelia. His house was an unusually good one for that age. Simon Girty, the renegade, told that Indians were so impressed with the fine display of the home of Mr. Hill that they called him white man's king.

The house was built of hewed logs, and the space between filled with wood, mortar or mud, and then white washed. It had three porches, two tall chimneys, and eight rooms. Hills Creek was named for Mr. Hill and, because of his sterling worth, "will sing his requiem as long as its waters flow." The creek flows through a narrow channel which increases its velocity until it plunges over a precipice sixty or more feet high forming a perfect spray and creating the beautiful Falls of Hills Creek.

Bruffey's Creek named after the first settler, John Bruffey, son of Patrick Bruffey, the pioneer, a revolutionary soldier under General Wayne, unites in time of flood with Hills Creek where their waters sink under Droop Mountain to appear again in the lower end of the Little Levels. Hills Creek forms Locust Creek and empties into the Greenbrier River. Bruffeys Creek forms Hughes Creek and after sinking and partly sinking for two miles, empties into the Blue Hole. Many of the numerous progeny of Richard Hill founded their homes in the Hillsboro Community.

The majority of the people of Hillsboro Community are of Scotch-Irish descent, their chief pursuits being agriculture and stock raising. Many fine herds of cattle and sheep, from time immemorial, have been prepared for the eastern markets and at the present time under the stimulus of our county agent, Mr. H. C. C. Willey, the farmers are becoming thoroughly aroused to the importance of purebred stock.

As the traveler ascends by an easy climb and gentle undulations the winding road cut on the face of Droop Mountain he beholds a panorama of unsurpassed loveliness when the sun pours his effulgent warmth and brightness over the mountains, plains, valleys and hills as they unite in proclaiming "The Lord reigneth, let the earth rejoice." He also beholds historic ground, for it was at the foot of Droop Mountain where General Averill with 5000 men pitched their tents before the Battle of Droop Mountain which began on November 6, 1863.

Hillsboro has always been a religious and educational center. John Jordan of pioneer fame gave a building site to the Methodist church which was destroyed by fire and they have since built four other churches in the community and now worship in a very comfortable, commodious building in the town of Hillsboro. In extracts from the journal of Rev. Francis Asbury we find that in the years 1788, 1790 and 1796 he had made three evangelistic tours through this section of the country coming up through Greenbrier County each time and being entertained and preaching at the home of McNeel in the Little Levels, going from there to the Drinnon home where he was received "gladly" and entertained "kindly" in the Edray neighborhood. His course led from there to Cloverlick down through Tygarts Valley in Randolph County enroute to Morgantown. At the McNeel home lively religious discussions were indulged in by the whole community.

Oak Grove Presbyterian Church was organized in the year of 1793. The early records of the Church were lost and no one remembers when it was built. A substantial brick structure in which this sect worshipped for many years was later built southeast of Hillsboro, where the cemetery is still kept up. In 1830 the Church was reorganized and Josiah Beard, Davis Poague, and John Jordan were elected elders. The most distinguished ministers who served this Church from 1820 to 1872 were Rev. Joseph Brown, Rev. Wm. G. Campbell, Rev. John S. Blain, Rev. Mitchel B. Dunlap, and Rev. D. S. Sydenstricker.

A new church, a frame building, was built in the town of Hillsboro, where the present church is located, in the early ministry of Dr. D. S. Sydenstricker. He was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. J. C. Johnson. The frame church was torn down in the year of 1910, as it was deemed advisable to repair the old church with a new one. A new brick building occupies the site and bears the name of "Oak Grove Church" in memory of the pioneer church although surrounded by a maple grove. The two prevailing denominations, Methodists and Presbyterians, have been signally blessed in securing ministers of great spiritual vision and consecration, for which is expressed their gratitude and appreciation.

In the early part of the eighteenth century a very important educational work flourished in what was then the village of Hillsboro. Under the supervision of Rev. Joseph Brown the brick Academy was built and contained one large central room with two wings. The name of Hillsboro was abandoned in deference to that of "Academy," so strong was the impress of the school's influence on the minds and the hearts of the people. In recent years the old name of Hillsboro has been restored to the town.

M. A. Dunlap of Ponca City, Oklahoma, has contributed some recollections of ante bellum days from his remarkable memory of conversations heard in the home of his uncle, Rev. M. D. Dunlap. He thinks the first teacher ever in Hillsboro community was a man by the name of Keenan who taught more than a hundred years ago. This teacher was considered a very learned man from the fact that he could write and read and had figured in the arithmetic as far as the rule of three. The next teacher was Rev. John S. Blain, a Presbyterian preacher, a teacher, and a physician. He is described as a large, lean, strong, man possessed of a kindly face and gentle heart. The description is somewhat contradictory as he is said to have whipped 13 boys the second day of school, 21 the third day, and 5 and 6 each day for about a week. After that no further trouble was experienced. But the school had an unsavory reputation that had to be disciplined, and he used the means within his power. The wife of Dr. Blain was a Miss MacRoberts, sister of Archibald MacRoberts, who made his home with them and told that panthers would sometimes enter their spring house and drink their milk. Mr. MacRoberts, whose father was a Randolph of Roanoke and descendant of Pocahontas, was the next teacher. He was well educated and a man of great talents that he used only under compulsion. He was a Whig, and in a campaign then being conducted between a Whig and a Democrat—in which the Whig was defeated in the argument—Mr. MacRoberts became so disgusted that he followed them to the next appointment and so completely routed the Democrat that he made it suit to steer clear of his antagonist

The next teacher was Rev. Joseph Brown whose gentle, Christian character greatly endeared him to the people; and it is to be taken for granted that as he was instrumental in the building of the brick Academy he must have been the first teacher within its walls.

B. 17

Rev. M. D. Dunlap succeeded him and taught from 1835 to 1846. His school had a wide reputation among his pupils and enjoyed the patronage of the Lewises and Irwins of Kanawha County; Tyrees and others of Fayette County; the Haynases and others of Monroe County; the Johnsons, Bears, and others of Greenbrier County; the Bensons, Lightners, and Ruckmans, of Highland County, Virginia. He taught throughout the entire year and sought the help of the more advanced pupils, notably Rev. Wm. T. Price and Rev. James Haynes. It was his opinion that about eighty pupils were as many as one man could handle.

Mr. Kelso, of Pennsylvania, and Miss Priscilla Ramsey, of Augusta County, Virginia, taught one session, and after the close of school were married and went to western Pennsylvania to conduct a boarding school. Rev. Daniel A. Penick filled the position of teacher one year, boarded at Colonel Paul McNeel's, and the following autumn married the latter's eldest daughter. Rev. Mr. Emerson taught two sessions, boarded at Colonel McNeels, and made a compass that ran a perfect line from the McNeel gate to the Academy. Mr. Emerson was said to be a relative of Ralph Waldo Emerson and a native of New England. Miss Mary S. Loverage, of Connecticut, taught in Hillsboro at the same time, but in a different building. Mr. Emerson became one of her most ardent admirers, but her choice fell to Mr. Henry Clark. Mr. Dunlap is under the impression that Mr. Emerson never married, which is an erroneous one because he established a school for young ladies at Shemariah, Augusta County, Virginia, in which he was assisted by his wife. Miss May Sprinkel taught in the home of Colonel McNeel the first year of the Civil War and was betrothed to John Burgess, the first man from this community to be killed by the Northern soldiers in their initial raid through the country.

From the foregoing interesting data it is easy to understand why so many noble and worthy lives were moulded in this fine institution of learning. The lives of Mr. Harmanius Stulting and family deserve special mention. They were natives of Holland, and to escape religious persecution, braved the perils of the deep on the rude craft of that day and came to dwell among us when the country was in its infancy. They were valuable additions to the social life of the community and through their devoted piety accomplished much good in this the land of their adoption. Mr. Cornelius Stulting, eldest son in the family, was a fine teacher for many years and died recently, mourned by all who knew him. Mrs. Carrie Stulting Sydenstricker, a daughter in the family, gave her life as a missionary to China, being sent as a member of the Oak Grove Church.

Rev. J. S. Kennison, a minister now in Albemarle Presbytery, N. C., is another worthy representative in the Master's cause from the same church. The first permanent settler in the wilderness of the Hillsboro Community was John McNeel, of Frederick County, Virginia. He was of a pugilistic temperament and, in the fear that he had slain an antagonist, fled from his native land and became a fugitive who followed the trend of the Alleghanies. After spending some time in their gloomy depths he emerged into this section of the country and was so favorably impressed with the fertile land, fine timber, and the general outlook of a goodly place in which to dwell, that he cast his tent on the gentle slope between where are now the gate at the road and the Matthew John McNeel residence.

17A

Teachers in Pocahontas County

Much has been written about the school teachers of various schools in Pocahontas County from early times to the present. The following is in my opinion one of the best of all, my Father.

In the mid 1950's three Vaughan Brother's left Brunswick County, Virginia headed West. One made it to Missouri, (the forerunner of Gen. Harry 'Icebox' Vaughan, under President Trueman. One stopped in Kentucky - while my Grandfather Burrell Vaughan settled near Lewisburg, in Greenbrier County. From then until after the Civil War hauled salt between Kanawha and Greenbrier County. Burrell finally married Maggie Anderson and raised eight of nine children in Greenbrier and Pocahontas Counties. They settled and built their log house on Caesar Mountain near Loblia. Fathers Birth Certificate as registered in the Court House at Lewisburg states he was born Sept. 25, 1873, listing his name as Elijah Burrell Vaughan.

E.B.Vaughan was educated from the Bible, home study and the one room log school at Loblia. From there he entered the "Academy" for a full term. Three of his classmates were Summers and George Sharp and a Mr. L. MacCarthy who in his late years told me much about my Father. Then he was lame and used a cane. Judge Sharp also told about my Father during a talk we had after I had visited his brothers grave in Colon, Panama, where he had died with fever while digging the Panama Canal.

In 1892 Father finished the "Acadeny" and started working on the C. & O. R.R. in summers and attended Teachers College during the Winters from which he graduated in 1895. Then he started teaching full time in Huntersville. Pocahontas County records state that on April 22nd. 1896 he and my Mother Fatima Susan Waugh were married by Rev. Geo. H. Echols. My oldest Brother James H. Vaughan was born in Huntersville on Jan. 5. 1897, George Beard Vaughan born Huntersville on March 7, 1899. That Spring my Father must have resigned after the school term and returned to the Railroad as I was born in Roncervert, W.Va. on Feb. 16,1901. Thus Father must have taught school for four full terms. The Assistant Vice President-Labor Relations Board of the C. & O. R.R. Archives in Richmond Va. advised me Father was killed cleaning up a wreck early in the morning of May 1, 1906 at Handley, W.Va. He was full Foreman of the Huntington Division at the time.

Mrs. Libby King, (Wife of Mr. Ed. King), an old friend, daughter of Orish Bird who had a boarding and rooming house below Bird run, often told me about the Teachers meetings when My Father would ride horseback from Huntersville and stop with them for lunch. She sought his table because she said he was such a handsome man - pause - then she said in that shy way of hers 'Your Father was such a handsome man its a shame none of you three boys look like him.' - anyhow you have his bearing and good manners. (THANKS LIBBY).

glv.

History of Hillsboro Community - continued

He came here in the year 1765. After he began to occupy his tent or camp, padded, muffled, footsteps were heard circling the camp at night. He feigned sleep, keeping his gun near at hand, until he heard something stealthily creep upon the poles forming the roof. When he looked in the direction of the sound he beheld, by the light of the camp fire, the fiery eyes of a panther. He lost no time getting rid of the unwelcome visitor.

One day while out hunting for venison and fish he met Charles and Jacob Kennison, natives of his home land, who proved angels in disguise in bringing to him the glad tidings that the man he thought he had killed had recovered and was in good health. Imagination fails to convey the great relief and gratitude that filled his heart to know he was not a murderer, of which his future life gave convincing evidence. He invited the Kennisons to share his camp and aided them in selecting a home site adjoining his tract. About this time John McNeel must have built himself a cabin in the rear of the Matthew John McNeel residence, near a wonderful spring in that locality. These three men soon returned to the lower valley of Virginia. It was on this visit that he married Martha Davis who was born in Wales in 1740. Soon after their marriage they came to the Little Levels to make their home. They brought with them a Welch Bible now in the possession of Joseph S. McNeel, son of Captain William Lamb McNeel.

Joseph McNeel is the man who offered, free of charge, marble or granite to build our new State Capitol. This stone exists in great abundance within the beautiful hills that encompass our mountains and that shelter our valley on the West. It has been a source of great disappointment to many to have such a generous offer rejected and one that, if it had been accepted would have filled the heart of every citizen with a just and civic pride.

John McNeel was so deeply impressed with a sense of God's providential care that, in gratitude to Him, he built the White Pole Church on the hill set apart for the McNeel cemetery, the first Church in the Community. These three men joined the expedition to Point Pleasant in October 1774. They were spared to return home, but only for a short time, as they enlisted in a company formed in Frederick County, Virginia, during the Revolution. After that experience they returned to this country and resumed "the even tenor of their lives."

A pathetic tradition informs us that while John McNeel was at Point Pleasant a child was born and died before his return, and that the mother, with her own hands, made the coffin, dug the grave and buried the child. This was the first grave in the McNeel cemetery, near the White Pole Church, which spot affords such charming landscape views of the surrounding country.

And now we come to the northern section of the Hillsboro Community, which is Mill Point, a charming little industrial village including within its limits proper a store, a blacksmith shop, two flour mills, and three homes. Many more homes are close by built on the hills and nestling coves and glens. Tourists exclaim over the majestic sweep of the hills and their graceful contour as they converge toward the village enclosing a scene of entrancing beauty. Surely we can endore the Psalmist and say, "The little hills rejoice on every side!"

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Just above the village a picturesque spring is found tucked away in a sheltered nook among the lovely foothills that dip their feet into the laughing waters of Stamping Creek. The spring gushes forth so abundantly from its source as to form a miniature cataract. The water is so pure and cold that it is called the Blue Spring. There is a tradition that herds of buffalo formerly gathered in the valley facing the spring to drink from its pure, crystal water and that it was from the stamping of the buffalo that "Stamping Creek" derived its name.

Two of the tribes of Indians that frequented this region were the Ottawas and the Shawnees. Pontiac and Cornstalk were among their leaders. The death of the Bridger boys is the most dramatic story of Indian cruelty we know in connection with the Mill Point Fort. Nathan, a colored boy, belonging to Lawrence Drinnon was sent to the Levels for help when Henry Baker was killed, one mile above the mouth of Stony Creek. After burying the dead and remaining long enough to learn that the Indians had decamped, the rescuing party debated among themselves as to the wisest and safest way to return. All except the Bridger boys and Nathan agreed to come down by the Waddell place situated in the Marvin neighborhood, as the road was more open. The three boys took the mountain trail through "The Notch" on the Auldridge Mountain. Both of the Bridger boys were killed and buried at the Mill Point fort on the knoll, now occupied by the Isaac McNeel residence. The colored boy was saved by stopping to tie his moccasin. The whoop of the Indians was heard signaling from Gillilian Mountain, the Auldridge Mountain, and the head of Stamping Creek informing each other that the whites were aroused and that they must flee. The people who live in this community are the McNeels, Beards, Clarks, Morrisons, Clendenins, Bruffeys, Hills, Moores, Clutters, Auldridges, Harpers, Kennisons, Wades, Lewises, McCartys, McCoys, Smiths, Cackleys, Ruckmans, McLaughlins, and others.

"The Pocahontas Times"

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DEC. 4. 1975.

Pearl S. Buck Birthplace Second Annual St. Nicholas Day

Once a year back in the late 19th and early 20th century, many residents in this small, rural Appalachian community would take leave of their pressing chores to walk the short distance to the "Stulting House," the home of Pearl Buck's mother's family and the spot of the famous author's birth in 1892. The neighborly visit always took place on December 6, St. Nicholas Day, the big holiday of the year for the Stultings who had emigrated to America from Holland in 1847.

According to Dutch legend, the day was named in honor of the old, wealthy man in Holland who gave candy and cookies for the poor during the Christmas season. In that tradition, Pearl Buck's forbearers made cookies and candies for their numerous visitors to enjoy.

For the second year, the festive and religious flavor of St. Nicholas Day will live again from December 4 through 7 at the Pearl S. Buck Birthplace Museum near Hillsboro. The historic house will be decorated for Christmas and free cookies, traditional almond bars, jan hagles and St. Nicholas cookies will be given out at the end of the tour. On Sunday, Santa Claus will greet the children and the day will be culminated with a bonfire at 5 p. m. Also, on Sunday, Lorraine Vandevender, of the Our Place Shop, Bartow, will demonstrate making old fashioned Christmas wreaths. The general public is cordially invited to attend. The Museum is open from 9—5, Monday—Saturday and on Sunday, 1—5 p. m. Admission is charged and group rates are available upon request.

Of special interest to Christmas gift hunters, the Museum's gift shop will feature many hand-crafted products made in Pocahontas County, including handmade Christmas Tree ornaments and wreaths.

March 4,1976.

PEARL BUCK MUSEUM

The Buckhannon Public library has donated a copy of Pearl Buck's book, "My Mothers House", Autographed by her in both Chinese and English, to the Pearl Buck Birthplace Museum at Hillsboro. Mrs. J.W.Reynolds brought the book to Hillsboro and presented it.

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR

THURSDAY, SEPT. 16, 1965

Famous Price Family

The death of Dr. Norman Randolph Price on May 12, 1965, aged sligtbly more than 90 years, calls attention to possibly the most famous family of Pocahontas County, long established in Marlinton. Dr. Price's mother, Anna Louise Randolph, of Richmond, Virginia, was descended from the Indian princess Pocahontas. The Welsh name Price means "son of a man," which fits the family perfectly.

So in 1895, when William T. Price, oldest son of James Atlee Price, who had settled in Marlins Bottom, married Anna Louiee Randolph, lady and poet with a little Indian blood, there was a happy and fruitful conjunction of ancestral strains.

The medical strain appeared in Thomas Price, ancestor of the Pocahontas Prices and son of the original Welsh immigrant, Samuel Price, who had settled in Augusta County, Virginia. Thomas acquired knowledge of medicine and surgery, and wrote a book on medicine, dated 1790.

From the marriage of William T. and Anna Louise Price came three well-known physicians: Doctors James W., Norman R., and Susie A. Price. Dr. Susie was clearly a pioneer woman physician, long employed by a Virginia institution. Her brothers built enviable reputations at home. From personal knowledge I know that Dr. Norman was an excellent letter writer and in recent years he composed a memorable autobiography, not yet published.

An older son, Andrew Price, became a prominent attorney, public official as postmaster, letter writer, and creditable poet along with his mother, and every inch a manly man to be trusted and admired. A younger son, Calvin W., as life long editor and publisher of the Pocahontas Times, first County newspaper, founded at Huntersville in 1882 and transferred to Marlinton in 1892, won a national reputation as a country editor and a host of friends by his uniform kindness and interest in people, which were distinguishing traits of his parents. A daughter, Anna Virginia, married a Marlinton banker, Hunter, and as a widow survives him. Another child Willie appears to have died in his youth.

The father, William T. Price, born in Marlinton in 1830, graduated from Washington College, now Washington and Lee University, in 1854, and from Union Theological Seminary in 1857. For 40 years or more, chiefly in Pocahontas County, he was a faithful and beloved Presbyterian pastor.

About 1890 he began his historical and biographical researches, and in August, 1892 in the Southern Historical Magazine, he published his first long account of Jacob Warwick and his decsendants. Then followed many sketches on Pocahontas pioneers in the Pocahontas Times, which as a boy I read and enjoyed. In 1901 these sketches were revised and published in book form in Marlinton in a 600-page volume, named Historical Sketches of Pocahontas County, West Virginia, which is a treasury of Pocahontas history and the author's masterpiece, hardly surpassed, and classed with Waddell's Annal's of Augusta County, Virginia.

Sincerely,
Amos L. Harold
1209 W. 8th St., Austin, Texas

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JULY 11-13, 75

—POCAHONTAS TIMES
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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR

THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 1975

Pioneer Days—July 11-13, '75

Two Hundred Years Ago

Pioneer Days starts the Bicentennial Celebration this year by honoring the men from this area who served the cause of freedom as Indian scouts and Revolutionary soldiers.

We print this week the testimony of John Bradshaw, as recorded at the Court House and printed in the Pocahontas Times in 1904. If you have other records and stories about Pocahontas people, we will be glad to print them. Also, we will print the names of those in Pocahontas today who are descended from those who served from what is now Pocahontas County.

Military Services of John Bradshaw

John Bradshaw lived in Pocahontas County, in 1833. On the 7th day of May, 1833, he appeared before the County Court of Pocahontas and made oath to his military service in order to obtain a pension under the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

He died on the 30th day of December, 1834.

He entered the service as an Indian spy in the spring of 1776. He was then seventeen years old. Before that he belonged to a company of Militia under Captain John Henderson. His home was in Monroe County, then Botetourt County. He took the oath of a spy. His term of service extended from May 1, 1776, to November 1, 1776, when the seasons for Indians closed, and their depredations having ceased and they having retired into winter quarters.

In 1777 he performed a similar service for six and a half months. Also in 1778 and 1779.

The nature of his services as an Indian Spy was to leave Cook's Fort on Indian Creek, now in the county of Monroe, and be out from three to four days each week, and then return, when others would go, for the same length of time. The practice was for two to go together, and when they returned another two would start out. The companion who was most with him was a man by the name of James Ellis. He sometimes went in the company of the late Colonel Samuel Estell, of Kentucky.

The country he covered as an Indian Spy was in the gaps and low places in the chain of mountains between the William Tafferty plantation on New River and the headwaters of Laurel Creek where they met the spies from Burnside's Fort. They traversed the Big and Little Stony Creek, Indian Draft, a branch of Indian Creek, and the headwaters of Wolf Creek.

The beat was supposed to be about thirty miles. In performing the duties of spies they had to carry their provisions with them, it being against the nature of their oaths and instructions, and also jeopardizing their own safety, to make a fire at night no matter how inclement the weather might be. During this time he was engaged in no civil pursuit.

He was drafted as a soldier of the Revolutionary War in January, 1781, from the County of Augusta. His regiment was commanded by Colonel Sampson Matthews and his company by Captain Thomas Hicklen. He marched across the Blue Ridge Mountain at Rockfish Gap, thence to the city of Richmond, thence down James River to Lundy Point. His company crossed the river and marched to Camp Carson, an encampment in what was called the Dismal Swamp near a place called Portsmouth.

In the spring he marched with the army to Murdough Mills, still nearer to Portsmouth, and was discharged April 9, 1781, after three months service.

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During this term of service, he was in one engagement at or in sight of Portsmouth. Captain Cunningham, from Rockbridge County, Virginia, was wounded in the groin, as he was standing a few paces from in front of Bradshaw. And a soldier was wounded near him in the leg and borne off the field in a carriage. These were the only injuries received by the American Army. He was several times engaged in routing the enemies picket guard during the aforesaid time. He was sergeant and acted as such during the three months.

He was again drafted in the summer of the same year and was under the same captain but was attached to a regiment commanded by Colonel Samuel Vance. He was marched through Rockfish Gap, thence on by a place called Bowling Green, thence on by Poge's warehouse, and then on to Little York, where Lord Cornwallis with his army was then stationed.

He was at the siege of York and the taking of Lord Cornwallis. The British army was marched out between the lines of the American army to the place where they laid down their arms and then they returned through the same lines to their encampment in Yorktown and on the next day were marched out with their knapsacks on, and then took up their line of march under a strong escort or guard of the American soldiers to the barracks at Winchester, Virginia. Bradshaw was one of the guard that escorted the British prisoners to Winchester where he received his discharge.

He refers to John Slaven who served with him in the same company.

Rev. John S. Blain, a clergyman of Pocahontas County, and William McCord certify that they are acquainted with John Bradshaw and that he is reputed and believed to be a soldier of the Revolution.

John Slaven testifies to his services as soldier at Portsmouth and Yorktown.

The members of the court include John Bradshaw, together with Joseph Moore, Sampson L. Matthews, and Jacob Lichtner, gentlemen.

John Bradshaw received his pension and died the following year leaving the following children and no widow: James Bradshaw, William Bradshaw, John Bradshaw, Thomas Bradshaw, Mrs. Levi Cackley, Mrs. John Guinn, Mrs. Thomas Gammon, Mrs. Samuel Hogsett.

From Prices History we record a little more about John Bradshaw:

Mr. Bradshaw owned the lands now held (1900) by William Curry, Amos Barlow, that recently held by the late William J. McLaughlin, the site of Huntersville, and from the James Sharp property on Browns Creek to Dilleys Mill. He donated and deeded the site for the public buildings of Pocahontas County, without reservation. In a lottery venture he drew a prize of ten thousand dollars, which made him one of the money-kings of his time.

In appearance his personality was striking, large and portly and scrupulously neat in his dress. He used a crutch that was profusely ornamented with silver mountings. His manners were those of an elegant gentleman of the old school.

About the time of Tarleton's raid to Charlottesville, he was drafted into the service. Late Saturday evening the notice was served on him to be ready for duty Monday morning. His young wife was equal to the emergency. She cooked, washed, cried, and prayed all day Sunday and had him ready for the war early Monday morning, and by night he was in Staunton on his march to Yorktown, where he said he fought in blood "shoemouth deep."

He died suddenly in 1837 (?). His grave is marked by the wild cherry tree in the old Huntersville cemetery, that is said to be growing directly over his grave.

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EVENING CAPITAL
JULY. ?, 1973

Special Report

Western Union Rushes Death of 'Old' Telegram

By LEONARD WIENER
Chicago Daily News

The telegram, as it has been known for more than a century, is practically dead. And Western Union, for one, wouldn't mind rushing the funeral.

WU President Russell McFall says he would like to see a hefty premium charged for hand delivery of telegram—perhaps $10 to $20 or more. In today's world hand delivery is an "elite service" that should involve an elite charge, he feels.

Not that Western Union, despite its increasing reliance on commercial-data transmission, wants to get completely out of the public-message business. Rather, according to McFall, the company wants to redesign its service to achieve a compromise between the need for relatively fast written communications and today's cost of labor.

THE MOST PROMISING proposal for a substitute for the telegram is the mailgram, a telegram sent by teleprinter to a post office near the recipient and then delivered overnight by regular mail. Although mailgrams can now be sent only from New York City and Los Angeles, Western Union plans to expand the service. It recently estimated that mailgram volume might total 150 million a year by 1975. About 16,000 mailgrams now are sent daily and the total this year is expected to be about 4.5 million.

The mailgram may be the efficient message-mover of the future, but the telegram will be a tough act to follow — in terms of its effect on an infant nation growing robust, the humor and poignancy it carried, the joys and too-often-tragic announcements that clicked over its wires and reached their destination clenched in the fist of a nervous boy pedaling a bike furiously between the local Western Union office and home after home.

His appearance at the front door always meant a moment of panic. Too often it was justified. ("The War Department regrets to inform you . . .")

But sometimes it bred joy. ("I am coming home.") Or it meant a dozen roses telegraphed by an admirer. Or birthday greetings, sometimes sung off-key.

THE BIGGEST SINGLE outpouring of telegrams occurred in 1952 after Richard Nixon made his famous "Checkers speech" in response to charges about his campaign fund. Some 500,000 telegrams in support of Nixon assured his spot as vice-presidential candidate.

One of the most disastrous uses of a telegram occurred in 1941. A warning from Washington of a possible Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor was sent to Hawaii military commanders by commercial telegram rather than through direct military communications. The attack was under way when the telegram arrived.

The telegram first became a tool of battle during the Civil War — and both North and South began tapping telegraph lines to spy on enemy plans. That was only 20 years after portrait painter Samuel F. B. Morse sent the first message — "What hath God wrought," from Washington to Baltimore.

Western Union, incorporated in 1851, was a glamor company of its day. But it blew its biggest opportunity: in 1877 it turned down an offer to acquire for $100,000 the patents for what would become the telephone.

BUT EVEN as the telephone grew so did the telegram and it was big news in 1927 when Western Union informed the nation that it would henceforth use punctuation in its telegrams. No. longer would a message include "stop,"

— PD. TIMES —

Say It Now

I would rather have one little rose
From the garden of a friend
Than to have the choicest flowers
When my stay on earth must end.
I would rather have a pleasant word
In kindness said to me,
I'd rather have a loving smile
From friends I know are true,
Than tears shed around my casket
When this world I'll bid adieu.
Bring me all the flowers today
Either pink or white or red,
I'd rather have one blossom now
Than a truckload when I'm dead.

Sent in by Obie Alderman
IOOF Home
Elkins, W. Va. 26241

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CALVIN W. PRICE, EDITOR

THURSDAY, JAN. 10, 1952

A Sharp Family

Charles H. Sharp of the Army, writes in from Provo, Utah, for me to give him his family line. As what I may write for him, may be of interest to his many kin people. I will publish it.

To begin with there are two lines of descent in the family name of Sharp. William of Huntersville, and that of John Sharp, the pioneer of Frost. John Sharp, native of North Ireland, who came here about 1790. There is unconfirmed tradition that John was a nephew of William. It is the William line that the young soldier is interested in.

William Sharp came to Huntersville prior to the Revolution, about 1775. He probably was from Augusta County, near Staunton. His wife was Mary Morris Sharp. He was a scout and a soldier. One of their sons, William Jr., married Elizabeth Waddell of near Mill Point. They settled in Verdant Valley, Edray District, near Fairview.

One of their sons was John who married Sally Johnson, who lived on Jerico Road, the old Ewing place, present home of Loy Sharp.

One of their sons was Ewing, who married Ann Malcomb.

One of their sons was Warwick F., who married his cousin Mary Sharp.

One of their sons is Charles Jack, who married Ora Thompson.

One of their sons is Charles H., the soldier who married Norma Harris, and who writes me from Utah for to give him his line of descent from William, the pioneer and Revolutionary soldier.

There is the romantic tradition that William, Jr. met Elizabeth Waddell at the home of Thomas Drinnen, who lived at Edray. She was there spinning flax. A preacher came along, probably Bishop Asbury, who can well be accounted the founder of the Methodist Church in America. Thomas drummed up a congregation, and one of the worshippers was William Jr., who came dressed in a coonskin cap.

When the young lady had returned home she made some funny remarks about the homely young man she had seen at the meeting and his furry cap. Her mother remonstrated, and said the young chap would probably be calling around the first thing she knew.

Sure enough he did come soon and on a busy wash day. He found the young lady resting up, performing on the spinning wheel in short petticoat, chemise and bare footed. It was love at first sight, and they became engaged that very day.

William the pioneer had his home near the junction of the Browns Creek and Huntersville Roads. He went with Augusta troops in the fall of 1774 to Pt. Pleasant, the first battle of the Revolutionary war. I am under the impression he was not in the battle. If I am right in this surmise, General Lewis had sent him from Charleston to go up Elk River and cut across country to the Army of Governor Murray, Lord Dunmore, who was coming down the Ohio River. They were to meet at the mouth of the Ohio. Mr. Sharp carried the message that General Lewis was on the way. They still tell tales reflecting on the integrity of Lord Dunmore for dragging his feet as he came down the Ohio. Anyway, the Indians started the battle before the other army could arrive and got themselves terribly defeated.

The combined forces did go on across the Ohio to Pickaway Plains, to receive the Indian surrender under the still standing Logan Elm.

Incidentally, the first declaration of American Independence was written and circulated at the Camp on Pickaway Plains, in December, 1774. This beats the one at Charlotte, N. C., of May 23, 1775, by several months. This in turn predated the real one at Philadelphia on that glorious Fourth of July 1776.

I will look up the first declaration of American Independence and publish it some of these weeks. The gist of it was Virginians by right and circumstance were and should be free, and if any body wanted to take up the banter the recent successful encounter with the Indians at the Point proved them a dangerous force to deal with.

So far as I have ever been able to find out, this fine resolution was adopted at a mass meeting of the Army, and nobody ever signed it.

Along in the early 1830's William Sharp, the scout and soldier made affidavit before the County Court of Pocahontas County as to his service in the Revolution. The next time I am at the Court House, I will pay Clerk Arling McLaughlin for a certified copy, and print it again. This is enough off hand writing on so important a matter as a man's family tree. There is alway present the temptation to slide from fact to fancy.

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR

THURSDAY, NOV. 27, 1975

Pioneer Days—July 9-11, '76

More About Marlinton

John Hayslett was set to remembering about the old Opera House and came into the Times Office to share some recollections:

He remembers several plays in the Opera House, all brought in—"Seven Nights in a Bar Room," "Face on the Bar Room Floor," also a hypnotist; for advertisement they put a hypnotized man in the drug store window, claiming no one could wake him; Dr. Howard stuck a needle in his heel and brought him out of it.

When Kelmenson's Store (located where People's Store is now) burned about 1916, his stock was stored in the Opera building. Darley Williams was fire chief.

There was a big door into the basement on the south side; there was nothing in it but the boys played in there.

It caught fire one time and the fire went up into the gable; the firemen put a ladder on the balcony and went up to put it out. Paul Overholt was fire chief. Lee Cole, Reed McNeill, John Guthrie, the Grubbs boys, Barney Slaven, Willard Eskridge, Kyle Mc Carty and John were the firemen as he remembers.

There was a building where French's Diner now is that went from street to alley. It burned—that was a good piece of fire fighting that saved other buildings.

Below that close to the railroad was a mill. Donnally first had the mill. He lived across from the school where Joe Roy, Jr. lives. Tate Hiner next had the mill and lived in the same house.

John noted that the Frank Hill family is the only family living in the upper part of town that was there 50 years or so ago.

He thinks T. D. Moore had a store above where Peoples Store is that burned. He then had a store on Main Street before building the store where the liquor store is.

Where Mrs. Mae Morrison recently built her home, there was a long one-story building. Several people had a laundry business there. John Jackson, s tall, tall man had a shoe shop there.

The first picture show he knows of was in the J&P Furniture Store building. The show cost a nickel and they called it the "Nickelodeon." They were silent pictures, of course, many of them serials. He remembers "Diamond in the Sky" as a serial. It was owned by Mr. Morgan, who had a store at the back and lived where Mrs. Jennie Sharp lives in the 600 block on Second Avenue. There were two buildings where the Municipal Building is, built by John Alexander and his son, Dwight. They also owned the hotel. John Alexander built the home where Mr. and Mrs. Emerson Sharp live. Back to the two buildings. The upper building had a pool room, three tables, and the lower building had a bowling alley, two alleys. There were palm trees in buckets sitting around—a beautiful place. They later put the bowling alley in with the pool room and built a swimming pool in the lower building. The pool was still there under the building when it was torn down a couple of years ago. There was a theatre in the same building, either before or after the bowling alley. It has been a grocery store, used by the Holy Rollers, and later was Brumagin's Furniture Store.

There was a big fountain in a fenced in court between the hotel on the corner of Main Street and the store on the other corner, which was T. D. Moore's Store, Mrs. E. G. Herold's Waffle Shop, and Wilbur Sharp's Store, before being torn down.

J. A. Hoover had a tailoring store where Curry's or Shrader's Store is.

Harlow Waugh had a store in building next to the Presbyterian Church.

Amos Staton had a hotel in this building.

R. C. May (father of Edith May, Edna Bear, and Clarence May) built an office across from the Tannery gate. He was an agent for Standard Oil and then the office was turned into a store. The Mays lived on Third Avenue by E. H. Williams.

Stanley Wooddell's house belonged to Allen Gay's family and was moved from Second Avenue to Third Avenue where they built a brick house (now owned by Lee McGee).

Forrest Malcomb lived in the first house on the 600 block where Gib VanReenen lives.

G. W. Clark built the house above Benwood Market for a hotel. He also had a stable. Wise Herold lived in that house, then it was a home for hospital nurses, now is the Sharp apartment house.

The house where Melvin Anderson lives was built by

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Mr. Campbell, of the Campbell Lumber Company, and sold to Elmer Wade when they moved.

John's teachers were first grade—Anna Wallace; second grade, Anna Sullivan, third grade, Anna Lee Ervine, fourth, Anna Sullivan, fifth, Gladys Poling, sixth, Catherine Ervine, seventh, Lillie Milligan, eight, Mr. Martin.

The main thing he wants remembered is the nine-hole golf course in town. It started near the bridge where Claude Malcomb's Taxi building is. It went down the river to the point near the Mouth and came up to where the brick Waugh house is, back down to the point and back up to where Ralph Nottingham house is. There were six holes on the west side of the railroad, then it went across the railroad and No. 7 was where the Little League ball field is. No. 8 was where the McGraw home is, No. 9 was right next to where Alva Moore lives—there were no homes there, just an apple orchard. He remembers Merle and Lucille McClintic played golf.

There used to be three fire companies—the Tannery Company, Downtown Company, and Uptown Company. Each had hand carts. There was a tall tower-like building to drain the hose located near where the American Legion building is.

On the Fourth of July the fire companies would gather at the corner of the Presbyterian Church and go up Main Street to connect to the fire plug to see which company could get water first. One Fourth a Syrian and his horse were struck and killed by the train.

Members of the Tannery Company (discontinued probably about 1930), as John can remember, were Ernest Dennison, Sam Withers, Ike Withers, Pete Spitzer, Howard Crable and Albert Moore.

John and his family moved here in 1908 from Millboro, Virginia, and lived where S. B. Wallace Company is today. The house burned about ; they then moved into a tannery house; they also lived in the Red House on Seneca Trail, the house above Peoples Store (it burned when Kelmenson's Store burned); and also where Mrs. Clarence Kellison lives by the Coca Cola plant.

Tom Mason first had a pop shop in the old frame First National Bank building, which was later the Home Products Market. South of that was Gay and Carter Feed Store. Next to it was a building that E. C. Cunningham had a restaurant or tavern; next was R. B. Slaven's Tin Shop. Where Williams Supply Store is now there was a livery stable run by G. W. Clark and Rex Kincaid.

Marlinton's Old And New Post Offices

Marlinton's first post office was a crude sawmill shanty located on Price Run on the Jerico Road. A sign on the building read: "Letters One Cent." Marlinton's present post office is located in a modern government building which was completed in 1937.

Former Confederate Army Captain Was First Marlinton Post Master

By JANE KINCAID

MARLINTON, Dec. 7 (RNS) — [illegible] marks the seventy-[illegible] anniversary of the establishment of a United States post office and the appointment of a postmaster in Marlinton.

During these 70 years there have been 11 postmasters who have served terms after being appointed by the different presidents. The second appointment was filled by a woman and the fourth appointment was served by a Negro postmaster."

Marlinton's first postmaster was [illegible] J. R. Apperson, formerly of the Confederate Army. He was appointed in 1887 by the Democratic Governor Cleveland. The post office was then located in the Toll House near the end of the bridge across the Greenbrier River which connects Marlinton with Route 219. This building, which is still standing, has been remodeled and is now occupied by the Toll House Restaurant. After serving one year as postmaster, Apperson resigned and returned to his home in Richmond, Va.

The second postmaster appointment was given to Mrs. Thomas B. Skyles, the former Miss Jane Baldwin of Baltimore, Md. Mrs. Skyles, who was the only woman ever to serve as Marlinton postmaster, was appointed by President Cleveland. She served in 1886 and 1887. The post office was then located in a hotel located on the present site of the Pocahontas Memorial Hospital and owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Yeager.

Mrs. Skyles served only one year and resigned to go east with her husband, but during that year she changed the course of local history. This is how:

History books show that in the year 1749 the first settlement west of the Allegheny Mountains was made by Jacob Marlin and Stephen B. Sewell, who had come into the Pocahontas County section from Virginia. They built a cabin on what is now the present site of Marlinton.

Although Marlin and Sewell were the best of friends, they could not agree on the subject of religion and found it more agreeable to live apart. One of the men remained in the cabin while the other took up his abode in a large hollow sycamore tree which stood nearby.

Col. Andrew Lewis found the men thus living apart when he came to what is now Pocahontas County on a surveying trip for the Greenbrier Land Co. in 1751. Sewell eventually moved further west and was killed by Indians on the mountain which now bears his name. In the meantime, Marlin returned to Virginia, but left his name on the settlement which he had helped form, as later settlers called the community Marlin's Bottom.

Mrs. Skyles decided that the name Marlin's Bottom did not sound right, so she inaugurated a campaign to have the town's name changed. It is said that she met with opposition on all sides. Even though she was bitterly opposed by most of the older members of the community, she used all of her influence in her campaign and was successful in getting the town's name changed from Marlin's Bottom to Marlinton.

Although the town of Marlinton has had its name since the late 1880's, there is still confusion in the spelling. Persons unfamiliar with the proper name often put the letter "g" in Marlinton, making it "Marlington." Much of the mail coming to the local post office is addressed thus. To aid in correcting this impression, the late Andrew Price, Marlinton historian and attorney, once wrote a poem entitled "There Ain't No G in Marlinton." This poem has been widely quoted and is familiar to most all Marlinton residents.

Sheriff Sam Gay was Marlinton's third postmaster. He was appointed in 1887 by President Cleveland and served until 1889. Dr. Calvin W. Price, editor of the Pocahontas Times, from whom the names of the Marlinton postmasters and the dates of their terms were secured, says there were three local residents by the name of Sam Gay at that time. The way they were distinguished was Sheriff Sam, Draft Sam, and Devil Sam.

[illegible] was during Sheriff Sam Gay's [illegible] as postmaster that Marlinton had its first post office building. The office was moved into an old sawmill shanty on Price Hunt [illegible] the Jerico Road, where it remained until 1889 when Gay resigned to become a candidate for another term as county sheriff.

With the change in presidential administrations, Marlinton's fourth postmaster was the Rev. Madison Boggs, a Negro preacher. He was appointed in 1889 by President Benjamin Harrison. As the Rev. Boggs was also keeper of the toll-house at the Marlinton bridge, the post office was moved to the Toll House again.

Before the coming of the railroad into Pocahontas County, the mail was brought in at least once a week by horseback and stagecoach. It came into the county over the Lewisburg-Marlinton Turnpike. A few years later, the mail was brought in three times a week. It was customary for the carrier to bring the mail from Lewisburg one day and make the return trip on the following day. During the stagecoach era, the mail coach also served as a conveyance for passengers.

After the stagecoach era the mail was carried in a two-wheel cart in which one or two passengers were often accommodated. Three Pocahontas County residents who had mail contracts during this period were Valentine Perkins, Thomas Hogsett (grandfather of [illegible] Hogsett of Marlinton), [illegible] Joseph Pennell (father of [illegible] Pennell, also of Marlinton).

Charles E. Hevener served as Marlinton's fifth postmaster. He was appointed in 1890 by President Benjamin Harrison. The office was still located in the Toll House.

The sixth postmaster was Henry A. Yeager, who was appointed by President Cleveland during his second term in 1893. During Yeager's term as postmaster, the office was located in the Staten Hotel building. This structure, which is still standing, is being purchased by the Marlinton Presbyterian Church and will soon be razed to make room for church expansion.

W. W. Tyree was appointed as the seventh Marlinton postmaster. He received his appointment from President William McKinley in 1897. During Tyree's term, the office was moved to a location where the People's Store now stands. Later the office was moved to a building which occupied the site of the present post office.

The eighth postmaster was N. Clausen McNeill, who was appointed by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1901. Again it was pick up the mail bags and move. This time the office was moved into the First National Bank Building to the room where Buzzard's Barber Shop is now located.

A. S. Overholt was appointed as the ninth postmaster by President Roosevelt in 1905. He was reappointed by President William H. Taft in 1909 and served until 1913. The office remained in the bank building.

The tenth postmaster was Andrew W. Price, who was appointed by President Woodrow Wilson in 1913. In 1917 Price was reappointed by President Wilson and served until 1921. It was during Price's tenture of office that free house-to-house mail delivery was inaugurated in Marlinton. The town is one of the smallest communities in the nation having this service. The man who carried the first mail over Marlinton streets was Edward Moore, who still serves as one of the town's carriers. The office remained in the bank building.

J. E. Buckley was the town's eleventh postmaster. He was appointed by President Warren G. Harding in 1921 and reappointed by President Calvin Coolidge in 1925. Buckley was the first postmaster to receive a third appointment, his appointment coming from President Herbert Hoover in 1929.

By 1929 the town's population had grown so that post office quarters had to be enlarged. A partition in the bank building was removed so that the office could also occupy the room now used by the Style Rite Beauty Shop. The post office remained in these rooms while the present modern post office building was being constructed.

Dr. E. G. Herold was appointed as the town's twelfth postmaster in 1934 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Herold served until his death in 1937.

Marlinton's thirteenth and present postmaster is Kerth Nottingham. He was appointed in 1937 by President Roosevelt. It was in this year that the post office was moved into the present modern building and the office's first permanent home.

In 1942 the appointment of postmasters was brought under Civil Service and it was in that year that Nottingham, having taken a Civil Service examination, was appointed as postmaster under the new law.

There have been many changes in the American way of life as well as the U. S. Postal Service since Marlinton's crude frist post-office was established 70 years ago, but the traditional although unofficial motto of the mail service is still in effect: "Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds."

(Since this is the first written history of the Marlinton post office, the writer is indebted to the following persons for facts contained in this article: Dr. C. W. Price, Dr. G. D. McNeill, J. E. Buckley, Kerth Nottingham, and Mrs. Richard Currence.)

FROM SOUTH AMERICA

Puerto Castilla, Honduras.

May, 2, 1925.—We left Balboa two weeks ago and went to Cartagena, South America. After four days there we started for Port Limon, Costa Rica, but while underway we received orders to relieve the Denver here in Puerto Castilla. The trouble is all over now and tomorrow we leave here for Port Limon, C. R., then to Colon on the 12th of the month. This suits me because I like to travel from one place to another, and this is a good trip to four countries in Central and South America.

Cartagena is one of the most interesting places I have been. It is one of the foldest cities in South America, founded by the French and Spanish. It is mostly convents and churches. The wall the Spaniards built and the forts are all intact and in use although the city has outgrown the wall today. Lawrence Washington, George Washington's brother captured it about the time of the Revolutionary War. There many things of interest here but I haven't time to write of them now.

Port Limon, Costi Rica, May 10.—I have just rettined from one of the most wonderful trips I ever hoped to make. Upon leaving Puerto Castilla we went to La Ciba, Honduras, for a day and night then we came to Port Limon.

Before we arrived we were notified by radio that the Costi Rican government was going to give a free trip to San Jose, the capital, which is 105 miles inland from Port Limon, to a limited number of officers and men, and all men having a clear record were given first chance and I did not miss it. It is not very often that men in foreign countries are given trips like this, therefore they are looked upon as rare treats.

We left Port Limon at seven a. m. Friday by a special train and arrived at San Jose at 12:30. The trip up was wonderful. The railroad which is owned by the government and is practically run by Americans, is a very modern one with the exception that it is narrow guage.

For thirty miles after leaving Port Limon the railroad runs along the coast under giant coconut palms with a splendid view of the beach. Leaving the beach it starts inland through the plantations. Here we saw bananas, oranges coconut palms, coffee, cocoboun trees, lemons, limes, tobacco and many other tropical fruits and crops of all kinds. Leaving the plantations, we started up a mountain river that has many water falls, and every time we would cross on one of the many bridges it reminded me of the Greenbrier.

San Jose being so high in the mountains we were wearing our blues. At first it looked funny putting our blues on in the tropics, but when we started climbing the mountain they felt comfortable.

The beautiful views continued all the way to San Jose and the trip up the mountain was as beautiful as any. Sometimes the grade was steep and by darting in and out of big cuts and a dash across a ravine on one of the numerous trussels we finally reached the top and then down the other side to the Capital City of Costi Rica.

Here we were taken to our hotels in American made cars and were given the best service to be found. Up in the mountains are large farms and cattle range and everywhere we went it was a reminder of the larger farms in the states, because all the work here is done by the latest farm machinery.

One could hardly believe they were in the tropics with the night chilly and wearing heavy clothes, we forgot allabout our buddies back in Port Limon only sixty miles away as the crow flies, suffering in summer clothes form the heat of old king Sol. The many crooks and turns the railroad has in ascending the mountain make the extra mileage.

We spent the day and night sightseeing—visiting the national places of interest—I don't think we missed a thing of importance unless it was the volcanos about thirty miles out of the city. The population of the city is around forty thousand and the city is directly connected with New Orleans by a large radio company. We met a few American tourists there. They were paying a big price for guides and other things we were getting free, and we were seeing the city in our own way. What we didn't know we asked about in the little Spanish we had learned here and there.

There were hundreds of things I saw of interest but haven't time to write about. On our trip back we stopped at several towns and bought souvenirs from the Indians. Costi Rica is one of the few Central American countries that have not mixed with the negroes and Indians and the bigger part of them are white. Most of the negroes (there are not many) came here from Jamacia and can all speak good English.

We are leaving here tomorrow for the Canal Zone. This month's cruise has been the best of all, and I hope take another and not have to stay in Balboa all the time until August, when we start for New York.

Glenn L. Vaughan.

BALBOA, CANAL ZONE

May 14, 1924.

The last letter I wrote was from the Atlantic coast, and this is from the Pacific side. Balboa is very much like Cristobal but not quite as large, and being an American Port, is dry. It being dry doesn't hurt things a bit because Panama City is "just around the hill" and fifty cents will take you over. These two cities are separated by Ancon Hill.

It may seem strange to you, as it first did to me when I had my first day ashore, I thought that most of people here, especially the Americans, would be drunk, but such is not the case. I don't know why it is, but outside of two or three cases I have not seen a drunk person down here and I think I have been in the places where one would find or expect to find over-loaded persons.

Sunday we came through the Canal and although it rained most of the day, I was able to see many of the wonderful sights to be seen while going through. The Locks are wonderful and to watch them work is more wonderful. They are operated by electricity and by pressing a button the huge gates will close and water is is forced into the Locks from the bottom and it takes from seven to ten minutes to raise the ship thirty feet. There are three sets of locks—Gatun Locks on the Atlantic, Pedro Miguel and Miraflores or Pacific Locks on the Pacific side. Twelve to fifteen is the average number of ships to go through a day.

Two of us ware transferred to the Denver this morning, but will be here until we meet another U. S. S. ship and I don't know when that will be. The Navy Transport U. S. S. Argone arrived here day before yesterday. I think she brought the mail down. It takes ten days for mail to come down on transports, otherwise it would take longer.

The Argone had aboard about fourteen hundred soldiers, sailors and marines, with about fifty women, bound for China. They stopped here to give them a two day's rest before going on. This was their first stop. We had a great time with them too. They left this morning for San Francisco.

Here at Balboa there is a Club house, a Community house, and a Y. M. C. A. and we make good use of them. Balboa is owned by the U. S. and nearly all the people living here are from the States. Most of them are working for the Government and make big money. The Police Department is all American and U. S. money is accepted everywhere.

Oh, I forgot the best thing that has happened lately. Four boys from my class at school were on the Argone, and with the nine of us here it brought nearly all our class together again, and we sure had a time that wil be remembered by all of us. They are gone now and we are staying here for six weeks unless we are called to Central America.

There are many things here that are mighty interesting but like most things are hard to describe and have to be seen to be appreciated. Of codrse fruits and many other things that one would expect to find in the tropics, are most plentiful and can be bought everywhere. The streets are as good and in most cases better than some cities in the States. One thing that seemed strange to me was the left hand traffic law. Instead of keeping to the right everything goes on the left side of the street.

In Panama City the people are mostly Spaniards, Negroes, and Spicks, which are a mixture of everything. The middle class are always dressed in white—unless they have on mourning—and are surprisingly clean. The poorer class and the Spicks are more like Mexicans, and are dirty all the time. Their children most always go naked until they are about eight years old.

The shop owners and business men are somewhat like Americans. They all dress well and have cars. There many cars made in the U. S. in the jitney business here, and are cheaper than in the States.

Although this is not supposed to be the rainy season here, it has rained every day for more than a week.

I am well and getting along fine and if I am unexpectedly transfered will send cable or radiogram telling name of ship I am on.

Glen L. Vaughan,
U. S. S. Rochester.

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January 1950

The Po

Volume 67, Number 24 MARLINTON, POCAHO

Along The Way

By Susan A. Price, M. D.

John Weaver, from up along the Flats of the Chicahominy, recently brought a turkey to a neighbor. They were not at home so he left the turkey with me, until they did get home about dark. We put it on a table and it spread well over, both in length and in width. A lady from Richmond who was visiting me that day said it was a wild turkey and so it was—shot that very morning—one of the few wild turkeys I had ever seen.

Years and years ago, I went to spend a few days with cousin Emma Warwick at "The Cabin" on Stony Creek. It was Christmas and the country was snow bound in the old time winter. The two boys, John and George, were home from military school. They had killed a wild turkey up along the cliffs. By the time I came the turkey had reached the breakfast hash stage. From my pleasant memory of the taste of cousin Carrie's hot turkey hash on those cold winter mornings, her recipe would indeed be a popular one could it be recalled.

My littlest neighbor, aged about three, came in to tell me of her Christmas gifts. She said she got a snow shoot, some bed rid sippers, a doll, a coes line and ever pins; also very slowly with deep emphasis, "I had the chick-chicken pops."

The great wave of Christmas high tide is subsiding—back to the deep and unknown sea of the future one might say. It was a busy out pouring of peace on earth, good will to man. With it all was the most marvelous weather for the Christmas season hardly ever remembered hereabouts. Spring like it was indeed, earning much comment. However, there is always something each Christmas season to cause mankind to rise above and beyond earthly things and every day conditions, although many hold to the belief it is still too much of an earthly affair, if there be such a condition to us earth borne creatures. We are reminded of these lines from Preston's First Christmas:

Peter was a fisher boy,
Helping with the haul;
Pilate was a shave tail,
Leading troops in Gaul;
Judas was as innocent,
As little child could be;
The wood that made the Crucifix,
Was still a growing tree;
Unminted was the silver,
That made the traitor's pay;
And none had yet commercialized
The spirit of the day.

A Happy New Year to all.

Susan A. Price, M. D.
Williamsburg, Va.

X

Cass

The Old and the New

Tourists come for miles by the car load and by the bus load, to ride the train to the top of the mountain, to see the beauty of nature and to see the old Cass Mill and the Company store. In my mind I go back several years and see a different Cass from what it is today. Cass was a town of hard working men, women and children, striving to keep the old mill running. I can hear the mill whistle blowing loud and clear every working day at 5:30 A. M., telling the men it was time to arise and face a new day. Cass seemed to come alive in one split second when that old whistle started blowing. Lights came on in every house for the women had to prepare a hot breakfast and pack lunches. Men had to put on their work clothes, eat a hearty breakfast and be on their way to the mill, shop, trains, or any job they happen to have. If you were one of the early risers you could see men come out their back doors and walk out the alley or out their front doors and walk up the board walks, some would fall in step with their neighbors and talk as they walked, and some would walk alone, just thinking about the day ahead or days gone by. At 7:00 o'clock the whistle blew again, telling them it was time to start up the wheels of progress. Later the school bell would ring just about as loud and long as the mill whistle. Children came from all directions, out the streets, across the old swinging bridge, up from Slab Town and Deer Creek, all would be carrying school books and some would be carrying a lunch pail or paper bag. A small group would be on their way to school because their parents made them go, but most of them went because they liked school and were interested in getting an education. Soon another bell rang telling the children it was time to take their seats and get classes started. Most of the classes started their day with the Lord's Prayer or a Bible story. The smaller classes would then have a "classmate health inspection." Usually they found me with dirty elbows for that lye soap didn't seem to get my elbows clean. Some would have dirty hands. Once in awhile someone had forgotten to comb his hair. About twice a year there would be a few sent home with lice. It was no disgrace to get lice, but it was awful uncomfortable to keep them. After inspection everyone settled down to studying reading, writing, arithmetic, and other subjects necessary for a good education. At noon the school bell rings, the mill bell whistle blows, telling the mothers to get the dinner on the table for those close enough to go home, the others to get out their lunch boxes and eat and relax. Some children used the noon hour to go to the post office or to the store to do a little shopping for their moms or a neighbor. The men would hurry to the store to buy a bag of Five Brothers tobacco, a plug of Browns Mule chewing tobacco, a new pair of gloves, or to sit on the store steps, leaning up against the heating units in the store (depending on the weather) to just talk and relax. Back to school and work for the afternoon. Four o'clock brings the sound of the school bell and mill whistle again. Children and fathers hurry home for a hot meal and to do the chores necessary to start in the routine of the next day. Mondays one could see line after line of clean clothes hanging out to dry. Tuesday was ironing day. Mothers were busy too; they had house cleaning, cooking, mending and all the little things a mother has to do to keep a family happy. The yards were kept mowed, sidewalks swept clean in summer months. In winter months the snow was shoveled off of the porches and sidewalks. The maintenance crew could be seen painting houses or mending fences and sidewalks. Some of us, whether we lived in town houses or privately-owned homes, almost knew how many boards were in each sidewalk, how many trees, and what kind were in each yard, who had dogs and who had cats. We could hear the passenger train coming up the track, knowing that it would stop at the old Cass Depot, bringing some new people and some we already knew. Time for a mad rush for the post office to get the County paper which always came on Thursday, or to see who got the biggest package from Sears Roebuck or Montgomery Ward, some to get a new mail order catalog. The train went on up to Durbin and back down again in the afternoon with more mail and passengers. Soon a freight train could be heard coming in to bring supplies and to take out lumber. In your small mind you wondered how the freight and passenger train could be on the track and not run into each other. Somewhere in and around all this the sound of the log train could be heard bringing in logs off of the mountain to be sawed and planed at the mill. Friday and Saturday the men who cut down the trees in the mountain were in need of a bath and clean clothes, so they would ride the log trains in for a weekend with their families. At nights the church bell would

ring at one of the three churches, telling people there was a revival going on, choir practice, practicing for a Christmas or Easter program or a prayer meeting. On Sunday mornings the bells from all three churches would ring for Sunday School and preaching services. People could be seen going up the street or down the street, going to the church of their choice. The town doctor would start out early to make house calls, to ease a small child's pains, an elderly person's aches, or on a rush call to bring a new baby into the world. He would go back to his office to find it full of patients, some were real sick and some only needed an aspirin and a pep talk. Some needed a broken bone mended, some needed a tooth pulled. Our doctor was a medical doctor, dentist and a counselor, all in one big jolly man. He was mother, father, and doctor to us young people. It was a sad day in Cass when he died.

We must not forget our Town Cop. He could be seen or found somewhere in Cass 24 hours a day. He made his regular rounds, sometimes taking a fellow home who had too much to drink and locking up some who refused to stay home after he had taken them home, checking up on the young people, making sure they had a good time, yet keeping out of trouble. On real dark nights or cold nights he would walk home with some of the children or young people if they lived out of town limits and had no street lights. He kept a close watch on the one restaurant we had, where young people could go to dance, drink cokes, or just enjoy the company of other young people, and of course he had to keep an eye on the beer joints to keep the men and some women from drinking more than they could handle, and separate the fighters. He was a busy man.

If you walked through the streets or back alleys when school wasn't open, you could see children, black and white, playing together, shooting marbles, playing pen knife, jumping rope, sleigh riding or ice skating, depending on the weather or season. The black men and white men worked together at the mill, swapped jokes, shared their chewing tobacco and called each other by their first names.

The Greenbrier River was a sight to see, both in winter and summer. In winter the ice would freeze from bank to bank. It was then time for the children to ice skate or take their sleds on the ice. Sometimes we would get ice from the river and make a freezer of ice cream if we could afford the cream, sugar and eggs. When spring came it brought warm rains and the ice began to melt. When the ice started out it took everything in its way, with it sometimes outdoor toilets, hog pens, chicken houses, and maybe a rooster sitting on top of the chicken house, crowing as if it were early morning. The swinging bridge would usually be pulled loose from its anchors on the bank and would have to be rebuilt. People along the river banks had to move out to higher ground so they would not be caught in the high water. It would not last long, soon the river would be back to normal. Toilets, chicken houses, etc. were rebuilt again. Soon afterward one could see smoke rising here and there from small fires, where people were cleaning their yards and gardens, getting ready to plant garden or just watch the grass and flowers come through the earth. Boys would begin to talk "fishing" and girls began to talk "swimming." Oh yes, we fished, swam and took Saturday night baths, and just waded in the Green

Continued on Page 5

brier and Deer Creek waters.

One can't go back and rebuild Cass as it used to be and no one wants to, we can enjoy the Cass that has been reborn into a tourist attraction. Some of the old timers are not there anymore. They have gone to the Big Lumber Yard in the Sky. Some have moved away, and some are still around and if they can get someone to listen they like to share their memories of the years gone by,—their work on the mountain, the train, mill and lumber yard. The younger people of our day have either moved away or built new houses in or around Cass and have established a new and happy life for themselves. Some like to watch the tourists come and go. Some like the new Cass and others don't. As the world changed, so did Cass, but I'm glad some of the people stayed around and helped in the rebirth of Cass as a tourist attraction, a place where people can come and see the beauty of the mountains which only God could create. They can look around and see where the logs came from and where they were sawed into lumber. The tourist can look around Cass and look back through the years and say "There were once some hard working people here with lots of love and laughter, heartaches and pain—all the ingredients to make a small town prosper. Maybe when they get home they can look at their house and say "You know, maybe some of the boards in this house came from that old mill in Cass, West Virginia.

Mrs. Oliver Sprouse
Dunmore

(1)

Schools 1912

The following article was taken from the Pocahontas Independent (March 21, 1912), and brought to us by Miss Alice Waugh.

Pocahontas Teachers Lack Preparation

(Says Superintendent Williams in Public Letter).

Also recommends that Libraries be placed in more schools in the County and that school house yards be fenced and cleaned up.

"I do not wish to be understood as always complaining about something or that I am never satisfied with anything, but there are a few things in connection with the free schools of Pocahontas County that I would like to see adjusted. The first is we have to use too many teachers from other counties many of whom are not personally interested in the children of our county and consequently we are not getting justly ours. Then again a few of those teachers at least belong to the traveling brigade and never teach or expect to teach but one school in a place, and some do not finish a term of six months but quit at once, two or three months on a frivolous excuse of "called away," "sick," "do not like it here" and many other excuses that happen to enter the mind at that particular time and the trustees and secretary will sign up for him and he will go his way rejoicing.

"Then, there seems to be another idea prevailing in the minds of the school officers as well as some people of this county, that a teacher who proves unsatisfactory, or in other words neglects his duty or is incompetent or spends his time when not in school in riotous living must necessarily spend the six months or the time for which he was hired before the matter can be adjusted. Then the only recourse is not to hire him again, which in my mind is an outrage on the children and taxpayers of our county. If the free school system permits such work as that to go on unnoticed we had better get our eyes opened to the situation.

"I have taken in the situation as honestly and carefully as I know how and in my opinion about 75 per cent or three-fourths of the teachers in this county this year have done and are doing most excellent work, work that will never be compensated for in this world in dollars and cents no matter what their salary might be. These teachers will never receive their remuneration until the Great Books are opened and they hear that plaudit, "Well Done," then they will receive their back pay.

"Then about 20 per cent or one fifth of the teachers of this county this year are doing medium work not being accused of doing very much or not entirely excused as to doing their whole duty in all things. For this class there is some excuse for consideration and patience. We hope to see improvement among this class another year. Shall we see it?

"Then that other 5 per cent of teachers who show no conception of their duty toward their schools, the children under their charge or the people in general, who only live for Friday evening and pay day. For this class I have no patience, I exercise no consideration whatever for this class, and in my opinion the only remedy for this class is to turn them out as fast as you find one. If it were in my power I would not permit such a teacher to finish the day before being dismissed.

"In another article I have shown that only three out of every four pupils of this county are in school this year, that only thirteen school grounds are fenced out of a total of 110; that out of 132 teachers we have one professional and two primary certificates, that 34 schools are without libraries and that 47 out of 132 are teachers from other counties, and that those teachers are holding the most lucrative school positions in our county and we are glad to say holding them to the gratification and profit of the patrons and children. Why do they hold them? Because we have not got the right talent or enough of the right talent? No not at all. The answer is apparent. We are not qualified and do not show enough interest in our preparation to hold those positions of trust and profit.

Our school officers are ready to employ native teachers when they know they have the talent in the county and that talent is properly prepared. Ask yourself how many schools in this county that pay above the average salary or the graded and high schools in other words, are in charge of county teachers.

"In consideration of the above named facts I would ask every teacher and those expecting to teach (and I hope there are many) to take advantage of the educational advantages offered in this county at the present time. We have a normal in session at Buckeye at the present time and will possibly hve a spring normal at Academy this spring and the Marlinton normal school will open April 29 and continue ten weeks.

"Each of these schools will be in charge of competent instructors and it is hoped that our people will appreciate these opportunities and avail themselves of the benefits there derived.

X

"If you should be inclined to leave our county for instruction we have six normal schools in the state and one first class university besides several other schools of prominence that will be glad to receive you.

"I feel that our teachers and school officers are not satisfied with three-fourths of the pupils of our county in school and that we will have a united effort next year in getting more children in school.

"Is it not best to have all our school grounds fenced and cleaned up, and to have a good useful library in every school house?

"Is it not in our power to have more county teachers better qualified and with a determination to be in the first class mentioned in this article?

"Have the patrons not a right to ask that we have more primary teachers who make it their business to do that kind of work and do it right that the children may be started in the right way?

"If these things are ever accomplished it will be largely through the efforts of the teachers and school officers and public sentiment.

"I realize how vain are the efforts of a county superintendent in doing anything in particular except to answer letters, growl occasionally and draw his salary quarterly.

I am yours truly,

B. B. Williams"

The following educational statistics for Pocahontas County for the 1911-1912 school year were compiled by County Superintendent B. B. Williams:

TEACHERS

"Number employed up to the present time, 132; number county teachers, 85; number teachers from other counties, 47; number home county teachers holding No. 1 graded school certificates, 27; number home county teachers holding No. 2 graded school certificates, 8; number home county teachers holding No. 3 graded school certificates, 1; number teachers from other counties holding No. 1 graded school certificates, 19; number teachers from other counties holding No. 2 graded school certificates, 0; number from other counties holding No. 3 graded school certificates, 0; number home county teachers holding elementary No. 1 certificates, 6; No. 2, 26; No. 3, 16; number home county teachers holding primary certificates, 1; number teachers from other counties holding elementary certificates; No. 1, 6; No. 2, 15; No. 3, 5; total, 26; number teachers from other counties holding professional certificates, 1; number teachers from other counties holding primary certificates, 1; number teachers doing high school work (either wholly or partly), 5; number teachers studying reading circle course in some way, 108; number teachers not studying reading circle course in any way, 24; number teachers teaching in dirty school houses, 10; number teachers trying to teach without any order or discipline, 15; number of teachers reported to board for neglect of duty, 4.

LIBRARIES

"Number volumes in the schools of the county, 5,895; number of schools having libraries, 76, number schools without libraries, 34.

GROUNDS

"Number school grounds fenced, 13; number school grounds not fenced, 97.

PUPILS

"Number pupils enumerated in the county, 4,100; number pupils enrolled in schools on my visit, 2,978; number pupils who graduated the first common school examination this year, 52; taxes levied for the support of schools this year, $67,091.54; cost per pupil for a term of six months based on enrollment, $22.54; cost per pupil for a month of 20 days based on enrollment, $3.75; number pupils enrolled 1st grade, 755; 2nd grade, 369; 3rd grade, 422, 4th grade, 490; 5th grade, 375; 6th grade, 198; 7th grade, 164; 8th grade, 146; high school, 57."

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR
THURSDAY, NOV. 13, 1975
Pioneer Days – July 9-11, '76

The Skating Rink

Old Opera House

By Frances Eskridge

Several months ago, I ran an article in the Times asking for any information anyone might have on the history and activity of the Opera House in Marlinton. I received many interesting and enthusiastic responses about the old place and what a center of community life it was in the early 1900's. I would like to report to you what I have heard and hope you will add or correct any information you may have.

The Opera House was built by J. G. Tilton in 1909 or 1910. Mr. Tilton came to Marlinton from Mt. Vernon, Ohio, and was a court reporter and later served as clerk. He was married to Mary Eveva Dilley, Floyd Dilley's sister. Mr. J. G. Tilton died in 1945 and his wife in 1973. The Tiltons had three sons, Virgil Tilton, deceased, Curtis Tilton, and Charles Warren Tilton, of Charleston, and one daughter, Lillie Tilton Miller, deceased. Curtis N. Tilton is the present owner of the opera house.

In an interview with Mrs. H. P. Spitzer, of Marlinton, I learned that three men who worked on the construction of the building were Andrew Moore, brother of Mrs. Guy Faulknier, and ~~Dempsey Johnson.~~ HIS FATHER Mr. Moore and Mr. Johnson did the cement work and railroad rails were used to reinforce the concrete. It was also reported that Bob Jordan, Betsy Edgar's father, did the carpentry work. Much of the fine carpentry work done in Marlinton was done by Mr. Jordan.

Mr. and Mrs. Tilton lived upstairs in the building next door to the opera house. One son was born there, Mrs. Spitzer remembers.

Harold Dilley, a nephew of Mrs. Tilton, remembers that the Dilley Hotel was across the street from the present Marlinton Methodist Church. This was a three story frame building. A. H. McFerrin, Mr. and Mrs. Tilton, and the Floyd Dilleys were some of the folks who lived there. Harold Dilley was born there and remembers that

OLD OPERA HOUSE

Tilton was born
This was around
because that was the
the flood and Harold
was a baby and had
taken out of the house
was put on a horse with
mother.

Was the Old Opera House Used?

Apparently, opera were built all over country to be used in a ber of ways for enter- ment and community ities.

round 1912, Mr. J. G. was editor of a blican paper similar to Pocahoctas Times. It a weekly paper and called Marlinton Mes- Mrs. H. P. Spitzer, years old, Lena Jordan, married to Gary , and Nola Buzzard, to Jim Baxter, were girls who set type for paper. This paper worked up in this opera house.

basketball team was ized for Marlinton the games were played opera house. In an view with the late Paul holt, I gained much mation about these ac- Mrs. Orion Gum, ton, sent me a picture ball team and the of the players.

Mrs. H. P. Spitzer recalls the days of the skating rink when the young people met to skate much as they meet for dancing today. She thought it was 25 cents to rent skates for all evening. Paul Overholt remembered being a skate boy and used to put the skates on the girls. Sometimes, a small band played and some of those in the band were Mr. H. P. Spitzer, drummer, Frank Anderson, and Bob Kramer, who played bass horn. Often, fancy skaters were brought in to give demonstrations. There was a stage across the front of the building and run-ways were built down for the performers to skate on to the floor. My mother, Mrs. Lura Brill, and my aunt, Mrs. Mabel Hudson, remembered skating at the opera house and Floyd Dilley was in charge of this activity.

Theatre Activity

Of course the original idea for the opera houses was to bring artists and also put on local plays. There was a large stage at the front of the room, which is still there. A balcony runs around the sides and back of the room. Seats were fastened together with slats and were moved out for performances.

Some of the plays which were given were: Madame Butterfly with Guy Bratton and Paul Overholt. So Long Mary which starred Paul Overholt and Fanny Overholt. The plays were practiced at Michael Pue's house so as to free up the building for other activity. Minstrel shows, Lyceum Courses, and solo artists, all were part of the theatrical world of this period.

The first movie there was "The Diamond From the Sky," starring the three Pickfords, Mary, Jack, and Lottie.

Alice Moore and Nancy Currence remember the production "Pied Piper of Hamlin," around 1916. Alice and Nancy were rats in that production. Warren Arbogast and Margaret Moore wrote from Sweet Springs, that they too remember this production.

Front row (l to r) Paul Overholt, sub center, Arden Killingsworth, center, Drew Rucker, guard. Back row (l to r) Leland Shoemaker, Mgr., Clayborne Nelson, forward, Orion Gum, guard, and Henry Hiner, forward.

Paul Overholt told me that the old opera house floor was the largest basket court in the State for a while. The team beat Davis & Elkins College. Paul Yeager was a big star attending Hampton Sydney College, and he would come in and play with the Marlinton boys.

X

They mentioned the following people that were in this play or some other in the opera house: French Moore, Hull Yeager, Clair Haught, Fred Hobert, Lula and Rita Herold, Hazel Shrout, and Helen Moore.

Betty Clay Sharp remembers how impressed she was with the stars in evening dress, performing on this stage. She said to her, they seemed like characters out of a book in fancy costume.

Mrs. Violet Markland (formerly Violet Sharp) writes, "My sister, Ada Sharp, from Slatyfork, gave a recital in the old opera house. She had graduated from Wesleyan College in Buckhannon in Expression or Elocution, then went on to Boston, Massachusetts to the Greely Institute for further training. She was in some plays with Roy Rogers; he had a rope act. When she was home for a visit, she gave a free concert in the old opera house, about 1914. She married and lived in Baltimore until her death in 1956. One of her daughters is Helen Hannah of Slatyfork.

The Presbyterian Church

In 1918, when the old Presbyterian Church in Marlinton was torn down and the new one was being built, services were held in the Opera House. Alice Moore remembers the signs around the room for the skaters: "No spitting on the floor," etc., and she said her brother, Hunter, was amused by these signs during church. Her mother was not amused by his behavior.

Other events remembered were a forest festival, a kind of county fair. Betty Clay Sharp remembered the exhibits, both inside and out. She said she had a pig for a project one time.

In 1918, the High School burned and many school activities had to be held in the opera house building. That is a school story and has come out in a school history.

Those Were The Days

Wouldn't it be fun to relive the days when the community had a center of creative and wholesome activity? If you have memories of these days and this place, the Old Opera House in Marlinton, write them to the Pocahontas Times and let's revive this spirit from the past.

Here is a quote from an interesting letter from Ralph Michael of Elkins. Ralph is the son of Mrs. Nellie Shrader and taught in Pocahontas County for several years. This letter was written to Frances Eskridge.

"I read in THE paper that you are pursuing an interest in the Old Opera House in Marlinton. I am glad to hear this. I didn't know that anyone else had ever given it a second look. I have often looked at it and I feel sure that I have over romanticized it in my mind. I used to have my car repaired there when it was Pifer's garage. I would go in waiting for the car and look up into the balcony hanging with mufflers and tail pipes and see a balcony full of people with eager and expectant faces glowing in theatrical lights from mysterious sources.

While I don't think the building is outstanding architecturally, it is an impressive size, and I do think the Romanesque arches of windows and doorway are rather grand.

I don't know that historically or architecturally it could be placed on the National Register but it might be worth a try.

Good luck! Wouldn't it be great it the county-town would convert it into a theatre, movie house, community auditorium, or "what-have-you."

X

KNAPPS CREEK

Homes—The pioneer homes have mostly been replaced by new modern buildings. A telephone line reaches nearly every one. Many of the houses have been provided with water system and light plants.

The only brick residence in the valley is the one where I. B. Moore dwells. Mr. Moore's father had this house built. The man who had the contract burned the brick and did all the work for the consideration of two sorrel horses. The home has been well preserved to this day.

Conclusion—In conclusion I wish to say that Knapp's Creek Community has furnished to the world ministers, college professors, a judge, doctors, lawyers, civil engineers, teachers and people of many professions. Seven teachers have come from Douthard's Creek School alone since 1910.

We are all very much indebted to Rev. Wm. T. Price for the history he recorded and left us. It is to be hoped that the people of each neighborhood will follow his example and keep a record of future events in a more accurate manner than they have in the days past.

The Moore schoolhouse first stood on the east side of the creek at the foot of the Allegheny Mountain, a short distance above Coe Beverage's, as the road was there at that time. Later, after the road was changed the schoolhouse of this sub-district was built further up the valley above C. D. Newman's. When it was decided that this structure could not be used any longer the house in which school is taught at this time was built.

The first school taught at Cove Hill near Frost was approximately in 1894 by J. M. Barnett.

Douthards Creek schoolhouse was built in 1910. It has also been used for preaching services and Sunday School.

A one-room building was first at Minnehaha Springs. It was probably erected twenty-five years ago. The two-roomed building was put up in 1915. W. L. Herold was the contractor.

41

ing ended crisis

What had to be worked was the Treaty of Paris, for two years laboriously pounded out in that city by John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and John Jay. The last article of that document required its ratification within six months. By mid-January of 1784, there were but two months left, and time had to be allowed for Congressional presentation and argument, plus getting the signatures back across the Atlantic in mid-winter.

What was going on with the Maryland delegation was typical. Its representatives were James McHenry, who, more than any other man, was responsible for bringing Congress to Annapolis; he left Congress the last week of December. Samuel Chase did not attend sessions at all. Thomas Stone did not show up until March. John Hall, who resigned in February, also never had sat, being ill at home the whole time. Only Jerimiah T. Chase, also the city's new mayor, was on hand.

Under the Articles of Confederation, nine states — two-thirds — of the thirteen had to be represented for a quorum. Only seven were so represented on Jan. 12.

The next day, the two delegates from Connecticut showed up, having been delayed by the heavy snows that continued to blanket the region.

A quorum was still lacking, so Thomas Jefferson urged another day's wait upon a nervous Thomas Mifflin of Pennsylvania, serving as president of the Congress.

On the 14th appeared Jacob Read of South Carolina. This arrival made all the Congressmen extremely happy, as they had at one time even seriously considered traveling en masse to one ill member's bedside (until he showed up) to ensure a vote.

Scarcely had Read taken his seat when Mifflin called the session to order, and passage of the Treaty of Paris was rammed through in record time with a unanimous vote, much to the relief of everyone concerned.

Not satisfied with that, however, an additional pair of copies were drawn and signed, and dispatched forthwith in the hands of two other messengers via two other ports. Nobody was taking any chances on the treaty's not getting to England on time.

Jefferson, who apparently kept no diary, but did keep a sort of expenditures day-book, noted of the day merely that he "gave Bob to buy 2 blankets 30 shillings."

Other Congressmen, having done their good work, thereupon began, as their first semiofficial act of independence, another old Congressional tradition disappearing immediately afterward.

Thus we shall, for the 188th time, celebrate Ratification Day in Annapolis today, with only a handful of Congressmen on hand to witness the true anniversary of American independence.

Tradition dies hard.

Historical miracl

1784 treaty sign

by FRANK YOUNG
Staff Writer

The historical miracle of Ratification Day is that it happened at all; but for the timely arrival of a couple of Congressional delegates, we might still be either fighting the Revolution, or Britain by now might well — as Sir Winston Churchill once remarked — "be seeking her own independence of the United Colonies."

The problem on Jan. 13, 1784 was the same on that has prevailed ever since among U.S. Congressmen: in the face of an important vote, many weren't there.

In the meantime, though the shooting had halted with Lord Cornwallis' mass surrender at Yorktown and a provisional treaty had already been ratified, the Royal Navy yet stood on patrol offshore, and British troops still occupied New York City.

With the provisional treaty — actually an armistice-pending-negotiations — in effect, the patriot influence, at a peak the previous October, was rapidly winding down to its prewar level. Everybody was going home. Indeed, even at the height of the war, Congress never could muster many more than 5,000 men under arms at any one time, and records show that, at those selfsame moments, there always were more American volunteers serving in British uniform than there were in the Continental Army or the various local militia units.

The point was that things were not really so much an armistice as a dangerous hang-fire. Something just HAD to be done.

What actually was going on? Well, as mentioned, the British Redcoats were still under arms, in strength, in New York. In the new American capital, Philadelphia, men of the powerful Pennsylvania militia had mutinied over the matter of back pay — which is why many Americans preferred the British Army — and, with 500 men and fixed bayonets, surrounded the State House and had given Congress 25 minutes to settle up.

Congress dillied and dallied, the deadline came and went, the delegates ventured out of the building very cautiously having done nothing, and nothing was done, apart from noisy catcalls. The troops, however, had meanwhile taken over the city's arsenals, barracks, and some artillery pieces. It took news of the impending arrival of Gen. Washington himself to break it up. The ringleaders left for the British lines and sanctuary in London, and Congress went to Princeton, N.J., having had quite enough of the City of Brotherly Love.

When straggling delegates finally began arriving in Annapolis weeks later, after more weeks of parochial haggling over the choice of a meeting place, there appeared enough to hear Washington's resignation on Dec. 23 but not enough for a working quorum.

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR
THURSDAY, FEB. 26, 1976
Pioneer Days—July 9-11, '76

A Bicentennial Patriotic Program is being planned for the 4th of July in Marlinton.

Bicentennial in Hillsboro

After listening to an inspiring Revolutionary War song entitled "The Battle of Trenton," Hillsboro's Bicentennial Committee began to plan a splendid program for 1976. A colorful parade, top-notch lecture series (including a session devoted to the history of Hillsboro), Bicentennial Community Picnic and an old-fashioned crafts demonstration day at the Pearl S. Buck Birthplace Museum are several of the events being planned.

For the celebration, Mrs. A. E. (Louise) McNeel and David H. Corcoran were named General Chairman and Secretary, respectively. Other chairmen and their committees are as follows: Edgar Starks-Parade Committee, Johnny B. Hill-Crafts, A. E. McNeel-Local History, Pastor and Mrs. Jack Arbuckle-dinner, Lawrence Workman-Clean-up, fix-up, and David H. Corcoran-Publicity and Lecture Series.

According to Corcoran, the Bicentennial presents a rare opportunity for uniting the people of Hillsboro. "We can grow close," he said, "by discovering together and identifying with our rich history." Concurring, Edgar Starks said: "Our committee invites the people and clubs to participate in order to make 1976 our greatest year yet." Louise McNeel announced that Mayor Johnny Kinnison and the Town Council were also supporting the project. The Mayor is said to be "enthusiastic" about the prospect of Hillsboro being named as a "Bicentennial City."

The first planning meeting was held on last Monday night February 23 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. McNeel. Refreshments were served after the meeting.

To volunteer for service on a committee, or for further information contact either Louise McNeel at 653-4814 or David H. Corcoran at 653-4430, or anyone of the committee chairmen listed above.

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Origins of the Episcopal Church in Madison Parish, Pocahontas County, West Virginia

by George J. Cleaveland

Madison Parish

The Diocese of West Virginia was formed of parishes which prior to 1878 were within the Diocese of Virginia. A parish is an ecclesiastical unit within the structural organization of the diocese. In the Diocese of Virginia and of West Virginia a parish is an area of land in which the members of the church dwell, marked off from other similar areas by metes and bounds. A minister and Vestry have ecclesiastical responsibility for the work and well-being of the church in their parochial area. Before the creation of the Diocese of West Virginia the annual council of the Diocese of Virginia created Madison Parish coterminous with the boundaries of Pocahontas County. The parish was named for the Rt. Rev. James Madison, D.D., first bishop of the Diocese of Virginia, who was also president of the College of William and Mary, and Minister of James City Parish. The Episcopalians of Pocahontas County are members of Madison Parish and the Episcopal churches in Pocahontas County are churches of Madison Parish. Madison Parish was one of the founding parishes of the Diocese of West Virginia of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

Pocahontas County

By Act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia, March 1821, the county of Pocahontas was created. It was formed of land taken from the counties of Bath, Pendleton, and Randolph. Three years later sixty square acres of land taken from Greenbrier County were added to Pocahontas county. Huntersville was made the county seat. The first court met March 5, 1822.

In his **History of Pocahontas County** the Reverend Wm. T. Price, D.D., has indicated that twenty-one years before the formation of the county some 152 people inhabited the entire region but by 1830, or nine years after the formation of the county, it had a population of 2,542. The Warm Springs-Huntersville Turnpike was completed about 1838, the Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike which crossed the upper part of the county was built about 1842, the Lewisburg-Marlinton Turnpike was located about 1854 and the Huttonsville-Marlin's Bottom road was completed about 1856. The creation of these roads made easier the ministrations of the Episcopal, Methodist, and Presbyterian clergy to the members of their respective churches, as well as to all others who would avail themselves of their services. At this period, as will be seen from the recital of later facts, a spirit of mutual assistance and Christian charity existed among the ministers of all three churches.

birthday. I broke him in in the log woods when he was just a boy.

There is an old man at Huntersville. I guess he doesn't want his age told. He is the man that killed the twenty eight pound turkey last fall. I believe Charley is older than me.

The Clover Lick Fort

As pioneer settlers entered the territory of what became Pocahontas county they built forts for their protection against Indian attack. One such fort was Warwick's Fort, built on the land of Jacob Warwick in the region of Dunmore and Greenbank. The fort derived its name from its builder, Major Jacob Warwick. He had served in Dunmore's War in 1774. He purchased the Clover Lick land from the Lewises and built a large house at Clover Lick. Both the Warm Springs Fort and the Fort at Clover Lick were commanded by Col. Andrew Lockridge during the Revolution from 1777 to 1779. Col. Lockridge fought at the Battle of Pt. Pleasant in Dunmore's War under Col. Charles Lewis, and after his death under Col. Wm. Fleming. Clover Lick was an important place along the route from Maryland and Pennsylvania to what was then the Virginia county of Kentucky.

Early Services of the Church

Shortly after the settlement of the county, clergy of the Methodist, Presbyterian and Episcopal Churches held services in Pocahontas County. We do not know when those first Episcopal ministers came or where they held services. The Rev. Dr. Price, **History of Pocahontas County**, page 596, has written that for many years services were held in the court house and then after the Academy was built (1842) Episcopalians, as well as Methodists and Presbyterians worshipped there. He further states that after the Presbyterian Church was built in Huntersville in 1855, all denominations used it for purposes of worship. Bishops Moore and Meade in passing from Warm Springs into the Western part of what was their diocese may well have paused in Huntersville seeking their people, as they did elsewhere in what is now West Virginia, and finding some administered unto them. It may be that the ministers of Bath county ministered in Pocahontas County as we

know of record that the Rev. R. H. Mason, minister of the Warm Springs Church did prior to 1869.

Driscol

In 1869 the Rev. R. H. Mason reported to the Council of the Diocese of Virginia that he had visited Pocahontas County in 1868 and that he had made prior visits to the church people there. As he came to Pocahontas County he traveled over the Warm Springs-Huntersville Pike and came first to Driscol. The first recorded work of the Episcopal Church began in the home of "a zealous family" in Driscol. That family was the Lockridge family. Lancelot (Lanty) Lockridge and his wife, the former Miss Elizabeth Benson, established their home on a farm in the locality soon called Driscol and now Minnehaha Springs. Both Bishop Whittle and Bishop Peterkin record their gratitude for the hospitality shown them by that "zealous family" and both record holding services of worship in their home.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Lancelot Lockridge were, Andrew, Matthias, Lancelot (Lanty), James T., Elizabeth, Nelly, Harriet, Rebecca, and Martha.

Colonel James T. Lockridge, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lancelot Lockridge, (the pioneer family) was a prominent man in his day. Dr. Price records that he was colonel of the 127th Virginia Militia, a member of the house of Burgesses, a merchant, magistrate and sheriff, and both the Journals of the Diocese of Virginia and the History of the Diocese of West Virginia by Bishop Peterkin show that he was a vestryman and warden of the parish and also a delegate from Madison Parish, Pocahontas County to the special conference of clerical and law delegates which brought about the separation of the Diocese of Virginia and the creation of the Diocese of West Virginia. In his home Bishop Whittle and Bishop Peterkin and the Rev. Mr. Mason held the services of the church for him and his family.

Col. James T. Lockridge married Miss Lillie Mosers of South Carolina and they lived at the Lockridge homestead at Driscol. Their children were: Horance M. Lockridge of Huntersville, Florence (Mrs. James W. Milligan of Marlinton), J. B. Lockridge, M.D., of Driscol (now Minnehaha Springs), and Mrs. L. W. Herold. In later years, after her husband's death, Mrs. James T. Lockridge made her home in Marlinton with her daughter, Mrs. James W. Milligan. Mrs. James T. Lockridge was a delightful Christian lady and the writer of these lines, when a young minister in Pocahontas County, conducted her funeral service, and read the Words of Committal from the Book of Common Prayer as her remains were interred in the family cemetery at Driscol.

As has been indicated Miss Florence Lockridge became the wife of Mr. James W. Milligan of Marlinton. Their children were Mabel and Lillie Milligan. Mrs. Milligan and her daughters were members of the Episcopal Church. Miss Mabel Milligan became the wife of Calvin W. Price, Editor of the Pocahontas Times, member and Elder in the Marlinton Presbyterian Church and son of the late Rev. and Mrs. Dr. Wm. T. Price. After many years of work and worship in the Marlinton Episcopal Church, Mrs. Calvin Price transferred to the Marlinton Presbyterian Church to join her husband in the work to which he was deeply committed.

As has been previously indicated services of the Episcopal Church were held in the home of Col. and Mrs. James T. Lockridge. As St. Paul wrote to Philemon concerning "the church that is in thy house" so "in the church which was in that faithful house" at Driscol the Episcopal Church began its entrance and life in Pocahontas County. At the head of the list of wardens and vestrymen of Madison Parish Pocahontas County, which includes the names of C. P. Bryan, M.D., John Ligon, M.D., Samuel B. Lowry, James W. Warwick, H. M. Lockridge, W. C. Gardner, R. S. Turk, Blake King, J. W. Hill, Dwight Alexander, M. E. Pugh, and Edward Wilson stands that of Col. James T. Lockridge of Driscol.

Visitations of the Bishops and Ministrations of the Clergy of the Diocese of Virginia in Pocahontas County before the Formation of the Diocese of West Virginia

We have no record to prove that either Bishop Moore, Bishop Meade, or Bishop Johns ever visited Pocahontas County. However Bishop Meade reported to the Diocesan Council (May 11, 1861) that he had visited all the churches in Western Virginia. On July 25, 1861 Bishop Johns reported "Accompanied by the Rev. R. H. Mason I entered on a visitation and missionary tour in the counties of Bath, Greenbrier, and Monroe." The Rev. Mr. Mason was the minister in charge of the churches in Bath county and the entrance into Western Virginia from Bath county was along the Warm Springs-Huntersville Pike, from Huntersville to Marlinton and thence to Lewis-

burg, Greenbrier county (along the Lewisburg-Marlinton Pike.) It would appear therefore that in 1861 Mr. Mason and the Bishop stopped in Driscol and in Huntersville, held services there, and then went on down to Greenbrier County. It is a recorded fact, however, that the Rev. R. H. Mason reported to the Council of the Diocese of Virginia that prior to 1868 he had made several visits to Pocahontas County. He also reported "Pocahontas is a very interesting field." Bishop Whittle reported that on September 12, 1869, after preaching in Warm Springs he had visited Pocahontas County with the Rev. Mr. Withers and the Rev. Mr. Mason to keep an appointment in Huntersville scheduled for the thirteenth. On arrival he found the appointment changed to a place fifteen miles distant (Dunmore) and that there were no candidates for confirmation. Therefore he remained in Huntersville with Mr. Withers visiting among the people and that the Rev. Mr. Mason went on and preached (at the changed appointment.)

This is the first recorded visit of an Episcopal Bishop to Pocahontas County. The visit was productive.

In 1870 the Rev. Mr. Mason was able to report that he had been holding services in 1869 with regularity in Pocahontas County "with some encouragement not only from the few members of the Church so warm in their attachment, but from others also." On August 17, 1871, Bishop Whittle again came to Pocahontas County reported that he had preached in the Presbyterian Church at the C. H. (Court House in Huntersville) and confirmed one person and then rode some 48 miles to Lewisburg where he preached the following night.

(This history will be continued in another issue).

Continued from Vol. I 464
Page 46.

New Minister

Bishop Robert P. Atkinson, Bishop of West Virginia, has appointed the Rev. Dr. Eugene L. TenBrink as Vicar of St. John's Episcopal Church in Marlinton. With his wife, Ruth, Fr. TenBrink lives in the rectory at 811 Ninth Street.

They have four children. Their daughter, Carol Pifer, lives in Wyoming, Michigan, and works in a school for partially handicapped children. Their oldest son, Eugene, lives in Columbus, Ohio, where he is a commercial artist. They have two sons in Bowling Green State Univerity, near Toledo, Ohio. Calvin is a junior and Victor, a Freshman.

In addition to his responsibilities in St. John's Church, Fr. TenBrink is also in charge of summer services at Grace Episcopal Church at Clover Lick. Along with these two mission churches, Fr. TenBrink has been appointed by Bishop Atkinson as Canon Evangelist for the Diocese of West Virginia. In that capacity the TenBrinks travel all over the state conducting parish renewal teaching missions and retreats. They also work as a team in the ministry of counseling and spiritual healing. They maintain an open household for people who come for the healing of their lives. In this ministry the peace and quiet of Marlinton and the beauty of the mountains around help to bring peace and wholeness to troubled persons who come here.

Before coming to Marlinton, the TenBrinks lived and worked at Trinity Farm Renewal Center near Marietta, Ohio. For twenty years, from 1946-1967, they were missionaries in India, where their three sons were born. Now they are happy to live in Marlinton, one of the most beautiful spots in West Virginia.

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1976

Episcopal Church History

Continued from a previous paper.

To the Council of 1873 the Rev. Mr. Mason reported that in 1872 "I have been officiating in Huntersville, and on Knapp's Creek (Driscol) once in four weeks, with much to encourage me. Communicants 8. Three candidates for confirmation".

The next year, 1873, Bishop Whittle again visited the church-people in Pocahontas County and reported to the Council of 1874, "July 25, Presbyterian Church, Pocahontas C. H. Confirmed two." The Rev. Mr. Mason reported nine communicants and stated that they were scattered widely over the county which made carrying on a Sunday School difficult but that family and pastoral instruction of the young were diligently attended to. He also informed the Coun-

cil that in Pocahontas County there were five persons awaiting confirmation at the next annual visit of the Bishop. For some reason the Bishop did not make his annual visit that year and four of the five went to Warm Springs and were confirmed by Bishop Whittle in that church. In 1874 an act of the Council of the Diocese of Virginia crowned the work of the Rev. Mr. Mason by declaring the area of Pocahontas County to be Madison Parish in union with the Council of the Diocese of Virginia. The Rev. R. H. Mason had ministered in Pocahontas County over and above his obligations to his own parish in Bath County. Under him the work in Pocahontas had so progressed that Bishop Whittle placed the Rev. Emile J. Hall (in 1877) in Madison Parish as its full time minister. Soon more or less regular appointments were kept for preaching and other ministrations in Driscol, Huntersville, Dunmore, Green Bank, Marlin's Bottom (Marlinton), Hillsboro, Edray, and Clover Lick.

The Diocese of West Virginia Created

As far back as 1851 the clergy of Western Virginia felt the need of a diocese of Western Virginia with its own bishop. To this Bishops Meade and John's objected. Finally, when Bishop Whittle became the Bishop of Virginia he gave his consent and at a special conference of clergy and laity assembled in Trinity Church, Staunton, May 16, 1877 the petition of the parishes of Western Virginia was granted and after approval of General Convention the diocese of Virginia was divided and a new diocese of West Virginia was organized. At the May 16, 1877 conference in Staunton Col. James T. Lockridge of Driscol was the lay-delegate representing Madison Parish, Pocahontas County. Col. James T. Lockridge was therefore one of the founders of the Diocese of West Virginia and Madison Parish, Pocahontas County was one of the organizing parishes.

On December 5, 1877 the clergy and laity of the West Virginia parishes met in St. John's Church, Charleston, to organize the new diocese and to elect a bishop. The Rev. Emile J. Hall and Dr. C. P. Bryan of Clover Lick represented Madison Parish. The Rev. J. H. Eccleston, D.D., Rector of Trinity Church, Newark, New Jersey, was elected bishop.

The Rev. Dr. Eccleston declined the election and a new council had to be called. This council met in Zion Church, Charles Town, February 27, 1878 and was presided over by Bishop Whittle. The representatives from Madison Parish, Pocahontas County, were the Rev. Emile J. Hall and Dr. John Ligon of Clover Lick. The Rev. George Wm. Peterkin, D.D., Rector of Memorial Church, Balitmore, Maryland, was elected bishop. He accepted and was consecrated Bishop of the Diocese of West Virginia May 30, 1878. Madison Parish had a part in the election of the first bishop of the diocese. We learn from a later report of Bishop Peterkin that at one time or another Col. James T. Lockridge, John Ligon, M.D., C. P. Bryan, M.D., Samuel B. Lowry and James Warwick acted as vestrymen of Madison Parish, Pocahontas County, West Virginia.

Madison Parish in the Diocese of West Virginia

When in 1878 Bishop Peterkin paid his first official visit to Pocahontas County he found the Rev. Mr. Hall living in Lewisburg but holding services in Huntersville and Clover Lick. Bishop Peterkin was not a stranger to Pocahontas County. He had campaigned there in 1861 as a Confederate soldier. He came to Pocahontas with the Twenty First Virginia Regiment which on August 6th, 1861 camped on Valley Mountain. The Bishop said that during the 43 days of their encampment it rained thirty seven days. Of the nine hundred men who came to Valley Mountain six hundred came down with typhoid fever or measles. He nursed the sick, and since he had been licensed a Lay Reader by the Bishop at the request of General Pendleton, for those who died he read the Prayer Book Office for the Burial of the Dead. In his History of the Diocese the Bishop says nothing about his care for the sick but does comment, "I attended the funerals of the men of our Brigade, and gave them the last rites of the Church." After the War, at his own expense, the Bishop erected a monument at Mingo to the memory of those who died during that encampment. The Rev. Dr. William T. Price, in his diary, On To Grafton, relates that on his return from the Battle of Philippi (June 1861) that he passed through Marlin's Bottom (Marlinton) on his way back to his Highland County Presbyterian churches. Dr. Price was a volunteer chaplain in Capt. Felix Hull's Company. The Rev. Dr. Price and Bishop Peterkin in later life became warm friends, and in Marlinton and Huntersville Dr. Price's Presbyterian Churches were always open to the use of Bishop Peterkin. One wonders if the two men could have met at Valley Head during the Confederate encampment there.

At any rate when Dr. Price was pastor of the Huntersville and Marlin's Bottom (Marlinton) Presbyterian Churches the Episcopalians held services in both churches. Bishop Peterkin preached in both, and on his visits frequently visited the Rev. Dr. Wm. T. Price. This information I received from his son, my father-in-law, the late Andrew Price, who also told me that when the Rev. Guy H. Crook held Episcopal services in the Marlinton Presbyterian Church he played the organ for him.

The Rev. William T. Price D.D.

Something here may well be said about the Rev. Dr. William T. Price. He was born near what is now Marlinton, July 19, 1830. He pursued studies preparatory for college at the Hillsboro Academy, he was graduated from Washington College (Washington and Lee University) in 1854 and he studied for the ministry of the Presbyterian Church in Union Theological Seminary, Hampden Sydney, Virginia. He was ordained by the Lexington Presbytery and licensed to preach in 1857. In 1865 he married Miss Anna Louise Randolph of Richmond. Their children were James Ward Price, M.D., Andrew Gatewood Price, Attorney-at-Law, Susie A. Price, M.D., Norman Price, M.D., Calvin W. Price, Editor of the Pocahontas Times, and Anna Virginia Price who was married to Frank Hunter. From 1861 to 1869 Dr. Price was pastor of the Highland and Bath counties Presbyterian Churches. From 1870 to 1885 he was pastor of the Cook's Creek Presbyterian Church in Rockingham County and from 1885 to his retirement in 1900 he served as pastor of the Huntersville and Marlinton Presbyterian Churches. His military service as volunteer chaplain in 1861 has been previously referred to. To him and to the sessions of his two churches the Episcopalians owe a debt of gratitude for the Christian courtesy shown them by allowing them to share the churches in the days when they were without their own places of worship.

The Warwick and Ligon Homes at Clover Lick

After the War between the States Dr. John Ligon came to Clover Lick and began the practice of medicine. It was told me that Bishop Peterkin informed him of the opportunity and urged him to come. Dr. Ligon married Miss Sally Warwick, the daughter of John Warwick and Hannah Moffett. The old Warwick house at Clover Lick was replaced by a more elaborate or modern one by Dr. Ligon. This burned in 1884. The Ligons had nine children. In my time as Minister of the parish two of his daughters, Louisa (Mrs. J. J. Coyner) and Annette (Mrs. Luther Coyner) with their children lived at Clover Lick and were active in the work and worship of the Clover Lick Church. Just as the original Warwick family made their home a place of preaching or worship for Presbyterian and other ministers so the Ligons' frequently entertained the bishops and clergy, and prior to the erection of a church had services in their house. Dr. Ligon often acted as a lay reader, conducting the service in his home in the absence of a minister on the Lord's day and doing such other things as might be of spiritual assistance to his patients. For the above information about Dr. Ligon I am indebted to his daughter, Mrs. J. J. Coyner. To Dr. and Mrs. Ligon is due, more than any other persons, the existence of Grace Church, Clover Lick.

Bishop Peterkin's Visits to Madison Parish

Reference has been made to the Bishop's first visit in 1878. The following year, 1879, he made his second visit to the church-members in Pocahontas County. Here is a summary of his report of that visit which he made to the Council of the Diocese in 1880.

On Tuesday, August 17, 1879 he preached in the Presbyterian Church at Mingo, on Wednesday, August 18th he went to Clover Lick and preached in Dr. Ligon's house; on Thursday, on that same day, August 19th, he baptized a child there, and then he went on to Green Bank and preached in the Methodist Church. Of that visit he continues "the few communicants we have in Pocahontas County are very scattered, so that after you reach the county, you have to make quite an extended circuit to visit them. (He made that circuit and he visited them again and again.) As the record of our services will show, we tried during the trip to make the most of our time. On Friday, August 20 I rode five miles to Dunmore and preached in the Presbyterian Church. I preached again in the same place on Sunday morning, and in the afternoon rode fifteen miles to Huntersville and preached in the Presbyterian Church. Sunday night I spent in the country about three miles from town at the home of one of our most zealous Church people (the home of Col. and Mrs. James T. Lockridge at Driscol). Monday morning I rode into Huntersville and baptized three children, and then went on fifteen miles further to Clover Lick. Here I joined Mr. Powers, (the Rev. W. H. H. Powers, then minister at Weston) and Mr. Dame (Rev. George W. Dame, Jr. minister at Clarksburg) and

preached at a school house in the neighborhood, and on Sunday morning at Dunmore and on Sunday night at Green Bank, in each case to large congregations. Mr. Powers had preached three times, in the afternoon to the Colored People at Clover Lick, and in the morning and at night at a schoolhouse about two miles distant.....tomorrow we go to Mingo where I expect to preach." Note in this report and in all others following how often the Methodists and Presbyterians open their churches to him and invite him to preach to them. Note also his custom of taking other clergymen with him on his official visits and having them share with him in his missionary work. Such missionary activity of the Bishop and such brotherly sharing of it with his clergy was most effective in building up the membership and spiritual strength of the Diocese of West Virginia.

The bishop writes of making continual annual visits to Pocahontas county but I can not locate a report of those for the years 1880-1881 and 1882. In his 1884 report to the Council of the Diocese he said "My annual visit to Pocahontas County was made the last week in August. On Saturday, the 30th, in company with the Rev. Dr. Lacy (The Rev. T. H. Lacy, D.D.) I drove from the railroad to Hillsboro, a distance of about forty miles, having service that night. On Saturday, August 31st, we have services both in Hillsboro and in Huntersville, the distance between them being eighteen miles. In Huntersville, we have hope soon to have a lot, and then to go on to the erection of a church. On Monday, we had services at Clover Lick, in Dr. Ligon's house, eighteen miles from Huntersville, and on Tuesday at the school house about three miles higher up the mountain where I confirmed two. At Clover Lick we have a beautiful lot for a church, and we trust the next year to see it built. That night we pushed on to Hillsboro on our return, a distance of about twenty-five miles." (G. W. Peterkin, History of the Diocese of West Virginia, page 843.)

On his 1885 visit Bishop Peterkin took with him the Rev. Mr. Gibson (the Rev. Robert A. Gibson had been in the Seminary with the bishop, had been one time assistant to Bishop Peterkin's father at St. James' Church, Richmond and had been induced by the Bishop to accept a call to Trinity Church, Parkersburg.) The Rev. Mr. Gibson later became Bishop of Virginia. They came to Clover Lick on May 31st and held services in a grove. Mr. Gibson preached and Bishop Peterkin confirmed two individuals.

The Bishop reported to the Council of 1887 that Mr. Lacy was in charge of the parish and that he, the Bishop, had preached in the new church at Clover Lick on Sunday, November 14, 1886. The church there had been built after the Bishop's May 1885 visit and before his visit of Nov. 14, 1886. It was erected during the ministry of the Rev. T. H. Lacy, D.D. but the Bishop wrote in his report that the church at Clover Lick was the direct outcome of the "zealous interest of Mrs. Dr. John Ligon." The Bishop reported that he had again preached in the Huntersville Presbyterian Church and that Dr. C. P. Bryan was warden of the parish. He reported also that a lot had been obtained at Huntersville and that the officers of Madison Parish were Dr. C. P. Bryan, Dr. John Ligon, James W. Warwick, H. M. Lockridge, and R. S. Turk.

The Clover Lick Church

During Bishop Peterkin's annual visit to the parish in 1892 he consecrated Immanuel Church, Clover Lick, on August 21st. He so designates it in his report to Council but puts Grace in brackets. It would appear from this remark of the Bishop that Immanuel was the name first given to the church at its consecration but that it was later called Grace. After some years the church was moved to a new site nearer to the depot. In his address to the Council of 1910 he stated that on Sunday, August 8, 1909, he had consecrated Grace Church, Clover Lick. He says, "This is the old church which was located at a point a mile or so distant, and consecrated August 21, 1892. Owing to the changed population it was deemed best to move it nearer the depot, and so great were the difficulties involved in taking it to pieces, that it may be considered practically a new building." He continued, "Preached in St. John's Church, Marlinton. This is a new building, rendered necessary by the change of the church from Huntersville. (Had a church been built on the Huntersville lot?) The rector and congregation deserve great credit for their energy displayed in the work; and thanks are due to the Hon. John T. McGraw for his liberality in giving a desireable lot. On Monday, August 9th, Bishop Peterkin went to Huntersville and preached in the Presbyterian Church. He said, "notwithstanding the removals, we still have a few faithful members in that neighborhood. Tuesday met with the vestry at Marlinton and consulted with them about building a rectory." 1910 Journal of the Diocese of W. Va., pages 16-17.)

So far this historical account of the work of the Episcopal Church in Poca-

hontas County has been written largely in terms of the visits and activities of the bishops of Virginia and West Virginia. It should be remembered that faithful ministers usually travelled with the bishops on their visitations and they carried on the work with regularity until the next annual episcopal visitation. A list of these men will be given shortly. By such men during the episcopate of Bishop Peterkin services were conducted in such places as Driscol (Minnehaha Springs), Huntersville, Marlinton, Hillsboro, Edray, Clover Lick, Green Bank, Dunmore, and at Campbelltown. Bishops Gravatt, Strider, and Campbell have continued the visitations begun by Bishop Whittle and Peterkin.

St. John's Church
Marlinton

The first services of the Episcopal Church held in Marlinton were held in the Presbyterian Church of which as has been pointed out the Rev. Wm. T. Price, D.D. was pastor from 1885-1900. Marlinton (Marlin's Bottom) derived its name from Jacob Marlin who with Stephen Sewell camped there in 1750-1751. In 1890 John T. McGraw of Grafton purchased the Marlin's Bottom lands. Soon thereafter the name of the Post Office was changed from Marlin's Bottom to Marlinton. The farms were laid off in lots in 1891 and the town began to be. By 1901 the railroad from Ronceverte up the Greenbrier to Marlinton and beyond was completed. Marlinton was incorporated as a town in 1901. The county seat was removed to Marlinton from Huntersville and the latter locality entered a decline. The Rev. Guy H. Crook served the Episcopalian in Marlinton from 1901-1907. The Rev. Jacob A. Hiatt followed him in 1907 and by his efforts on April 28, 1908 "Marlinton Mission: St. John's Church was organized." By 1911 there were forty-five communicants at Marlinton and 60 Baptized persons belonging to the St. John's Mission. A church was built at a cost of $3,000 and a rectory costing the same amount. Both stood on the lot given by Mr. McGraw. After Mr. Hiatt's departure the rectory was sold but the church remains the property of the parish, title held by trustees, and at the present time its use is shared with members of the Roman Catholic faith who at present do not have a building of their own. The Rev. Mr. Hiatt listed the following vestrymen of the parish (Madison Parish) for Marlinton and for Clover Lick. For St. John's Church, Marlinton: Warden: Blake King. Vestrymen: J. W. Hill, Frank King, Dwight Alexander, and M. E. Pue. Registrar, Blake King. Treasurer, J. W. Hill. The officers for Clover Lick are listed as follows: Warden: W. C. Gardner who also serves as Registrar and Treasurer. Sunday School Superintendent, Sarah Simmons. Lay Readers: W. C. Gardner and Mrs. Eva McNeel.

Ministers who have served Madison Parish, Pocahontas County, West Virginia. The Rev. R. H. Mason, before 1866-1877, The Rev. Emile J. Hall, 1877-1880?, The Rev. Francis D. Lee, --1880--, The Rev. T. H. Lacy, D.D., 1885-1888 or longer, The Rev. Thruston M. Turner, 1897-1899, The Rev. Guy H. Crook 1901-1907, The Rev. Jacob A. Hiatt, 1907-1911. Vacant 1912. The Rev. Josiah Tidbald Carter, 1913-1916, (Bishop Peterkin died 1916), The Rev. F. A. Parsons, 1917-1918, Vacant 1919-1920, The Rev. George J. Cleaveland, D.D., 1921-1924, Vacant 1925-1926-1927, Rev. Robert Tomlinson, 1928-1929 (supplied from Buckhannon). The Rev. Olaf G. Olsen, 1930-1949 (At first he was also in charge of the churches in Greenbrier), Mr. J. L. Welch, 1950-1951 (Church Army), Mr. E. S. Wilson, Lay Reader, 1952-1957; The Rev. C. L. Draper, 1958 (served from St. Thomas, White Sulphur); Mr. John Klatte, 1959-1961 (Church Army); Mr. Edward Wilson, Lay Reader, 1962-65; The Rev. F. H. Dennis, 1966-1970 (Minister at Summersville); The Rev. J. W. Ford, 1971-; The Rev. R. M. Hall, Jr., 1972-1973-(also Minister at Summersville).

Sources: Journals of the Diocese of Virginia and of West Virginia, Wm. G. Peterkin, History of the Diocese of West Virginia. Rev. Wm. T. Price, D.D., History of Pocahontas County, W. Va.

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POCAHONTAS TIMES
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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR

THURSDAY, NOV. 28, 1974

Thanksgiving Day

Thanksgiving-day; Thanksgiving-day;
Oh, it has come once more;
And does our thankfulness keep pace,
With basket and with store?

Bread daily given, waters sure,
Health, comfort, friends and home—
Not from the ground to us arise,
Whence do these mercies come?

Lift up our eye and view the Hand
Supplying all our need;
And think! One day of giving thanks,
Is small return indeed.

Surely, in church, at home, afield,
We hail Thanksgiving-day,
And bless our gracious Lord above
Who brings us on our way.

Anna L. Price, 1913

Bicentennial Historian

John Alexander Williams, writer, historian, and descendant of generations of West Virginians, has agreed to write the volume, West Virginia: A Bicentennial State History, in the forthcoming Bicentennial State Histories series, The States and the Nation.

Professor William's volume will be an interpretive essay, characterizing the people of West Virginia historically and showing the relationship of their state's history, their particular experiences, their applications of democracy, and their values, to those of the nation as a whole.

Professor Williams is amply qualified for the task. He grew up and attended public schools in West Virginia, graduating at White Sulphur Springs in 1957. For the past decade, his research and writing have centered around Appalachia, with special attention to West Virginia, where his family has lived for many years. Mr. Williams was born in Galveston, Texas, in 1938. He earned the bachelor of arts degree, with honors in history, from Tulane University in 1961, having interrupted his studies there to spend a year (1959 60) at the London School of Economics at the University of London. He holds the master's degree (1962) and the doctorate (1966) from Yale University. He also attended the Interuniversity Consortium for Political Research at the University of Michigan during the summer of 1968. Professor Williams spent a year (1965-1967) as assistant in instruction at Yale, five years (1966-1971) on the faculty at Notre Dame, and one year (1971-72) on the faculty of the University of Illinois at Chicago Circle, before returning to West Virginia.

Since 1972, he has taught United States history, West Virginia and Appalachian history at West Virginia University, handling both advanced and graduate courses and being chiefly responsible for a huge introductory state history course required for certain students of West Virginia University.

Mr. Williams was awarded a Gereral Motors Scholarship (1957-61); Woodrow Wilson Fellowships (1961-62 and 1964-65); a University Fellowship (1962 63); and a Danforth Teaching Assistantship (1965-66). He is a member of the American Historical Association and the Organization of American Historians.

His writings include West Virginia and the Captains of Industry: The Politics of a Colonial Economy in Appalachia, scheduled for publication in 1975 by West Virginia University Library Press; an essay entitled "West Virginia" and several biographical articles commissioned and accepted by the Crowell-Collier Company for an encyclopedia; and a variety of articles and reviews in such professional publications as The History Teacher, the Indiana Magazine of History, Research Reports in the Social Sciences, Maryland Historical Magazine, Journal of the Folklore Institute, Review of Politics, and West Virginia History.

Mr. Williams is the son of Mrs. John A. Williams and the late Mr. Williams and grandson of the late A. D. and Lula Waugh Williams, at one time of Pocahontas County. He is a cousin of Miss Alice Waugh, of Marlinton, and visited here much.

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...CAHONTAS TIMES

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...W. PRICE, EDITOR

...DAY, JUNE 24, 1954

...McNeill "Retires"

...forty-nine years of teach... but one in the state of ...Virginia, Dr. G. D. McNeill, ...professor of Social Sciences ...and Elkins College, left ...yesterday for the farm ...Buckeye, Pocahontas county ...which he was born on May ...

...McNeill's accomplishments ...been many. His life story ...the kind that is rarely met ...days. By the turn of the ...he had earned the degrees ...of Laws and Master ...from National University ...School in Washington. In ...young lawyer was elected ...attorney on the Re... ticket in Democratic ...County.

...came a "hitch" in the ...States Navy during which ...McNeill made the trip ...the world with the "Great ...", 1907-09. Hundreds ...residents have heard Dr. ...graphic description of ...through the Straits ...

...discharge from the navy ...of lumberjacking in the ...young McNeill came ...Pocahontas county and ...the career he loved most, ...working and studying-- ...his A. B. degree at ...College. There followed ...Cincinnati University ...A. degree from Miami ...University.

sure that our readers join us in wishing the McNeill's many pleasant years, in what he so aptly calls, "semi-retirement".

—Randolph Review

In 1919 Professor McNeill entered the political arena the second time, on this occasion as Republican candidate for Pocahontas County Superintendent of Schools. He was elected with more than 800 votes to spare, which, as Dr. McNeill loves to point out, was a considerable improvement over his 1904 majority of a slim thirteen votes.

In 1923 came the principalship of Marlinton High School from which eighteen years later Principal McNeill "retired" in 1941 to begin thirteen years of valuable service to Davis and Elkins College, which was recognized in 1951 when the college awarded him a Doctor of Law degree. Though a Methodist by conviction he long taught an adult Bible class at the Davis Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Dr. McNeill has been the author of many articles and stories upon West Virginia, the best known of which are found in the volume, "The Last Forest, Tales of the Allegheny Woods," published by Fortuny's in 1939.

Not the least of Dr. McNeill's accomplishments has been the rearing and educating of four fine children, two sons and two daughters. He and Mrs. McNeill celebrated their golden wedding anniversary last year.

Call Dr. McNeill what you will, -teacher, author, sailor or politician-the word which describes him best is "friend". By this term he has endeared himself to thousands of former students and numberless associates who have profited through contact with him, -from the days back in 1897 when as a young graduate of Droughan Institute, Nashville, Tennessee, he taught at Texarkana, Texas, -to this past year at Davis and Elkins.

Dr. McNeill, still vigorous in mind and body, will devote his time at Buckeye to writing tales he has long had in mind. We are

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POCAHONTAS TIMES

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR

THURSDAY, FEB. 23, 1961

Poet Laureate

The townspeople of Keyser, where Dr. Louise McNeill Pease is a professor at Potomac State College, last week purchased space in the Hillbilly to support their proposal for the naming of Louise McNeill as the Poet Laureate of West Virginia. And we, of her native Pocahontas, gladly add our voices for a vote of acclamation. Dr. Pease, writing under her maiden name of Louise McNeill (she is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. G. D. McNeill of Buckeye) is the author of the book of poems, "Gauley Mountain," and many others that have been published in nationally-known magazines. She knows the history of her people and is a fitting candidate for the honored title.

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1959

MARCH 25, 1964

George Douglas McNeill

George Douglas McNeill, 86, of Buckeye, died at his home Sunday, March 22, 1964, after a long illness.

Born at Buckeye May 22, 1877, he was a son of the late James and Frances Perkins McNeill.

His wife, Mrs. Marietta Grace McNeill, died July 1, 1961.

He was a member of the Marlinton Methodist Church and the Masonic Lodge at Marlinton.

Mr. McNeill spent 42 years in the school system of Pocahontas County, first teaching when he was 17 years old at Buckeye. He was County Superintendent 1919-1923 and then served as principal of Marlinton High School until 1941, when he became professor of history at Davis and Elkins College. He retired in 1955. A vast reservoir of historical fact, he was the author of "The Last Forest" and "Tales of Pocahontas County."

Mr. McNeill attended Draughon's Business College and received his LL. B. and LL. M. degrees from the National University Law School in Washington. He served as prosecuting attorney in the early 1900's. In 1906 he joined the Navy and went on the "Round the World" tour of the U. S. Fleet. For his tales of this experience "G. D." was best known to his many students. He had a B. A. degree from Concord College, an M. A. degree from Miami University (Ohio) and an honorary LL. D. degree from Davis and Elkins.

Survivors include two sons, James McNeill, of Buckeye, and Ward K. McNeill, of Columbus, Ohio; two daughters, Mrs. C. P. Dorsey, of Morgantown, and Mrs. Roger Pease, of Athens; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon in the Marlinton Methodist Church by the Rev. George McCune and the Rev. Ezra Bennett. Burial was in the Buckeye Cemetery.

Mrs. G. D. McNeill

Mrs. Marietta Grace McNeill, 82, of Buckeye, died at the Pocahontas Memorial Hospital on Saturday, July 1, 1961, after a long illness. Mrs. McNeill was born at Buckeye on January 22, 1879, the daughter of the late William C. and Susan Buckley McNeill. On January 29, 1903, she was united in marriage to George Douglas McNeill, who survives.

In her youth Mrs. McNeill was a teacher in the district schools, and throughout her life was a professing Christian and a member of the Buckeye Methodist Church.

Surviving are: her husband, G. D. McNeill of Buckeye; two sons, Ward K. McNeill of Columbus, Ohio, and James W. McNeill, of Buckeye; two daughters, Mrs. Carleton P. (Elizabeth) Dorsey and Mrs. Roger W. (Louise) Pease, both of Morgantown. Also surviving are her sister, Mrs. Edna M. Kellison, of Beard; her brother, R. S. McNeil, of Marlinton; four grandchildren: John D. McNeill, Fresno, California; Blix and Cheryl McNeill, at home; Douglas Pease, of Hanover, New Hampshire; and two great-grandchildren, Larch Ann and Rosemarie McNeill, of California.

Funeral services were held at two o'clock, July 3, at the Swago Methodist Church, with the Reverend Ezra Bennett in charge; interment followed at the family cemetery at Buckeye.

"Strength and dignity are her clothing . . . and the law of kindness is on her tongue . . . She looketh well to the ways of her household . . . Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her . . . Give her the fruit of her hands and let her works praise her in the gates."

G. D. McNeill to be [illegible]

Dr. G. D. McNeill will be honored this year at the conclusion of the "Pocahontas Beautiful" parade on May 2. A pink dogwood tree will be planted on the lawn of the Marlinton High School, where he was principal for so many years, and the many friends and former pupils of Dr. McNeill are urged to attend the parade and join in the dedication services.

In line with Dr. McNeill's many years of service in the teaching profession, in the County here and as a professor at Davis and Elkins College, a marker will be placed at the Fair Grounds where Henry Baker, the first school teacher in Pocahontas County, was killed and scalped by the Indians as he had gone to wash in the Greenbrier River. This was in 1786 at the site of Lawrence Drinnon's cabin.

The parade promises to be good, as Leo Davis, parade marshal, is working hard on it again this year. All businesses and organizations are urged to make an entry to make it the best yet. The parade will be at 2:00 May 2.

This parade and dedication are the highlights of the two-weeks' period set aside to help every person in every part of Pocahontas County to realize the need to clean up and keep our County clean and beautiful!

My dear Mr. Vaughan.—

For want of convenient pen and ink am writing a pencil note.

The book was mailed yesterday and I suppose it will arrive in time. Was glad to know that you were OK. A number of boys from high school are going to Navy now. In fact, there is little else they can do except loaf or go in to Army or Navy. A few are getting into aviation.

There is little to report as to my fortunes. Am still in Marlinton High, but will probably be going out soon. Ward — my eldest boy — has been in Columbus for years; the eldest girl — Elizabeth —

Davis and Elkins College
Elkins, West Virginia

WILLIAMS

Buckeye, W Va
Dec. 6/58

Friend Vaughan, - The McNeill Ranger article was interesting and appreciated. Nothing new with me. Wife is not well, and I am still jammed up. Many deer being killed, weather bad. Ward is home for some turkey hunting. Thank you for the McNeill article. They come from same family as my ancestors 5-6 generations back.

Very Truly
J D McNeill

Book Donation

February 27, 1974

Superintendent P. C. H. S.

The enclosed book, "The Great White Fleet," is being sent to your school library in memory of the late Dr. George Douglas McNeill. Dr. McNeill was my teacher in the sixth and seventh grades—with the late Dr. Calvin Price he was my Scout Master and more than that, a life long friend. I hope you will place this book in the school library for everyone to use and you could mention it to the Pocahontas Times so his children still in Pocahontas County could read it also. His two daughters in Morgantown have read it there.

Although the book was published in 1965 it is now out of print and very scarce. The U. S. Naval Academy here in Annapolis only has one well worn copy. Dr. Pease is presently writing a book on her father's life.

I remain,
Sincerely,
Glen L. Vaughan
Lt. Ret. U. S. Navy
Annapolis, Md.

Mr. Fred Smith, the principal, and Miss Peggy Smith, librarian, greatly appreciated the gift of the book and some clippings and poems about "G. D." Mr. McNeill sailed with the "Great White Fleet" around the world on a good will tour.

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Dear Glen,

I was very pleased to see in the Pocahontas Times your memorial gift of The Great White Heat for "G.D." "G.D." would greatly appreciate it too as I am sure the High School will and my family. I thought the Times article very nice.

Roy and I are fine and hope you and Jennie are also.

No good news on the book. A recent "query" letter misplaced at Harper and Row has held me up about six weeks.

Again, thank you. Louise

Dr. Louise McNeill Pease, Ph.D,
from Fairmont, W.Va. of May 3, 1973.

- - - - - - - - starting on page four.

About "G.D." - I would very much like to have his Naval records. His ship was the U.S.S. Glacier and he went in late 1906 or in the early months of 1907.

He was "Yeoman in charge of stores" - " a petty officer" he always said. He must have been an enlisted man, for he was chosen to represent the enlisted men andmade the speech accepting for the fleet some kind of YMCA Library?, the gift of Jay Goulds' daughter - Helen Gould.

He made thés speech at some big dinner in New York before the Fleet sailed. Miss. Gould - after his oration - sent him a letter asking him to come and see her - But he shipped out of Brooklyn and always enjoyed teasing my Mother about what might have happened had he called at Gould Mansion

He came home - after some delay in the state of Washington for lumber woods - in May 1910.

As you know Glen, he went to the Navy to recover from an acute case of alcholism and the complete wreck of his life - he had been disbarred from his law practice - had lost everything. He came home cured and started teaching school and helping whiskey- prone kids.

I heard him preach a sermon on his experiences once - in a big church, for he always very open about it around town - every body knew it anyway His Navy years meant much to him as he tried to enlist again in 1917 - much to Mama's relief. They turned him down as being too old.

THE SAILOR

My father at the last was blind,
And yet forever he could find
Continents cradled in his mind—
Continents, islands, shores, and grails
Far in the distance. Now he sails
Outward forever through the gales—

I stood beside him the day he went;
The wind came running; the canvas tent
Over his grave on the hill was rent
From off its moorings; it billowed fast,
And so my father went forth at last
Over his oceans of the vast

Continents, islands, shores, and seas—
My father sails through Eternities.

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ZIP-26554

Louise McNeill

In becoming one of Appalachia's most respected poets, Louise McNeill sang with pride about the mountain heritage of the region's residents.

Now she traces their consciousness from pioneer days to atomic frontiers and looks to the future with uncertainty in her new book of poems, "Paradox Hill: From Appalachia to Lunar Shore."

Her book was published recently by McClain Printing Company of Parsons for the West Virginia University Library with private funds made available through the WVU Foundation, Inc. Copies may be ordered for $4.50 each, plus 50 cents for postage and handling, from the Book Store, Mountainlair, West Virginia University, Morgantown, W. Va. 26506.

But who is Louise McNeill that anyone should listen to her prophecies or share her pride and fear?

She's a wife and mother, and history teacher at Fairmont State College. But more than that she's a person with strong convictions about herself, her heritage, her homeland and its future. And she's able to translate these convictions into compelling poetic rhythms.

Her name is well-known to the editors and publishers of respected national literary magazines such as Saturday Review and Atlantic Monthly, which have published her poems.

During the 1950s, she was a frequent contributor to The Saturday Evening Post, Ladies Home Journal, Good Housekeeping, Harpers and other magazines.

Miss McNeill was born and reared on a mountain farm in Pocahontas County, where her family has lived since pre-revolutionary days. She attended the two-room schoolhouse where her father taught. And she received her bachelor's degree in English from Concord College, her master's degree from Miami University of Ohio; and a doctorate in history from West Virginia University. Why a doctorate in history?

"It was for a very practical reason," she recalled. "When I wanted to get my doctorate, WVU didn't offer one in English."

Practicality is one of her first considerations, whether applied to finishing her education or writing poetry. Miss McNeill never has enshrined herself in an ivory tower. She feels that a poet can work as practically as a bricklayer or someone who bakes a loaf of bread. This philosophy shows in her work.

"I believe poetry should be useful," Miss McNeill said. "It can be useful to the spirit, useful to relieve the mind and useful to society. Of course, it's useful to the poet, too, but it should go beyond that."

Miss McNeill says serious poetry has become confessionalist and that ballads, such as Bob Dylan's protest ongs, are replacing poetry in one area. Some of her poems, like Dylan's deal with the public's fears and social issues.

"I feel—and this makes me quite quaint among most poets today—that

poetry can deal validly with social criticism. I'm not a protestant, but I'm not ashamed to try something along this line. I see no reason for poets to be so fine fingered."

Academians, and sometimes poets themselves, often attempt to set down rules for poetic subject matter. Miss McNeill objects. She says she never places limits on what poetry should or can deal with.

"I once heared Allen Tate say that no one should write a poem about his mother. So I have deliberately written one about mine," she said.

"Paradox Hill" is divided into three sections—"Appalachia," "Scattered Leaves" and "Lunar Shores." Each deals with aspects of Appalachian life . . . from the traditional to the futuristic.

The book is full of the kind of poetry that Stephen Vincent Benet, in his foreword to an earlier collection of her poems, "Gauley Mountain, also published by McClain Printing Co., described as simple, direct and forceful. Many of the poems are laced with humor, some are tinged with sorrow, others are filled with outright rage.

Many of the stories spun in Miss McNeill's ballads were told to her by her father, Douglas McNeill, who was a writer, teacher and one-time sailor. He too wrote about West Virginia in a volume of short stories called "The Last Forest."

Sometimes she is inspired by conversations she hears in public places. Two of the most poignant poems in "Paradox Hill" are entitled "Overheard on a Bus."

At the age of 18, Miss McNeill began to write seriously, and two years later her first poems were published in a Dallas, Tex., magazine, Kaliedograph. Since then, she has published three volumes of poems and several short stories.

"I often will write a poem in a few hours," she observed. "The poems that turn out right are the ones that are written rapidly. Sometimes if I fail to get it down the first time, I can go back to it later but that doesn't happen very often."

She is a great believer in form. When she decided to write seriously, she studied form, pattern and rhythm. She rarely writes in free verse form.

Miss McNeill works very hard at finding the right words and perfecting the images in her poems. She throws away two of every three poems that she writes.

Dr. Ruel E. Foster, chairman of the WVU Department of English, thinks one of Miss McNeill's greatest virtues is her complete lack of affectation.

"You'll find none of the big, dramatic rhetoric of Shakespeare or Milton in her poetry," Dr. Foster said. "She's contemporary, yet you'll find none of the tortured rhetoric that many modern poets fall prey to.

"She is part of a great tradition in American poetry," he observed.

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U. S. S. PHOENIX AT HOME

American Cruiser To Leave B.A. To-Day

CAPTAIN John W. Rankin and the other officers of the U.S.S. Phoenix gave a reception on board the cruiser yesterday evening, to which three hundred and fifty persons had been invited.

The guests were received by Captain Rankin and the executive officer, Commander James E. Boak.

Among those present were: Mr. S. Pinkney Tuck, United States Chargé d'Affaires, Mrs. Tuck, and their daughter, Miss Martha Douglas; representatives of the Argentine Government and the Ministry of Marine; Messrs. Geoffrey Wallinger and N. J. H. Cheetham, secretaries to the British Embassy; Mr. J.A. Strong, Cheetham, secretaries to the Bri- and Mrs. Strong; Commander Thomas J. Doyle, United States Naval Attaché, and Mrs. Doyle; the Naval Attachés of other Embassies; Admiral Eduardo Sa-migli, commanding the Seventh Naval Division, and the Commanders and officers of the two Italian cruisers now in port; Captain Guy Baker, head of the United States Naval Mission, and Captain Agustine Gray, also a member of the mission; Major John Cannon, chief of the American air group of technical advisers to the Argentine Air Force, and Mrs. Cannon; Lieut. Benno Edgar Fisher, Argentine aide-de-camp to Captain Rankin; Mrs. Carl Rapp, president of the American Women's Club; Mr. Monnett B. Davis, United States Consul-General; Commander A.D. Chickering, of the American Legion; Spencer Ely Post; Major Oscar Lowenthal, General Manager of the Southern Railway Company, and Mrs. Lowenthal, and Mr. Delprat Keen.

Light refreshments were served on the quarter-deck, and music was provided by the ship's band.

The Phoenix was gaily decorated with bunting for the occasion.

CRUISER SAILING TO-DAY

The Phoenix is leaving at 12.30 o'clock to-day for Montevideo.

Supremo

Page 1 61 "TIMES"

March 3, 1953

For my old navy friend,
Glenn Vaughan —

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HOUSE *of* REPRESENTATIVES
RESTAURANT
U. S. CAPITOL

may this serve to recall pleasant memories — including the bean soup!

Glenn Davis
Representative in Congress
Second District, Wisconsin

MENU

"Glenn was an Ensign working under my orders 1770"

Vol. 1
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All About Our "Bean Soup"

Bean Soup has been a featured item on the menu of the House of Representatives Restaurant since long before that day in 1904 when the then Speaker of the House, Joseph G. Cannon, of Illinois, came into the House Restaurant and ordered Bean Soup.

Then, as now, Bean Soup was a hearty, zesty, and filling dish; but it was typically hot and humid in Washington that day, and, therefore, Bean Soup had been omitted from the menu. "Thunderation," roared Speaker Cannon, "I had my mouth set for Bean Soup"; and, he continued, "from now on, hot or cold, rain, snow, or shine, I want it on the menu every day."

And so it has been—Bean Soup on the menu every single day since.

For our many friends who over the years continue to ask for the recipe for this famous soup, we print it herewith, just as it has always been made (adapted to family-sized quantity) in the House Restaurant kitchen in the Capitol:

RECIPE FOR BEAN SOUP SERVED IN U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES RESTAURANT

2 lb. No. 1 white Michigan beans.

Cover with cold water and soak overnight.

Drain and re-cover with water.

Add a smoked ham hock and *simmer slowly*, for about 4 hours until beans are cooked tender. Then add salt and pepper to suit taste.

Just before serving, bruise beans with large spoon or ladle, enough to cloud.

(Serves about six persons.)

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PAGES

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(Page 2)
...ONTAS TIMES
...every Thursday except
...of the year.
...the Post Office at Mar-
...Virginia, 24964, as
...matter
...PTION CHARGES
...County $2.50 a year.
...a year. In advance.
...SHARP, EDITOR
...AY, NOV. 7, 1968

...ANDERS FIELDS

...fields the poppies
...the crosses, row on
...our place; and in
...still bravely singing
...amidst the guns
...dead. Short days
...felt dawn, saw sun-
...were loved, and
...we lie
...anders fields.
...from falling hands we
... Be yours to hold
...faith with us who
...not sleep, though
...grow.
...anders fields.
—John D. McCrae

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AMERICA'S ANSWER

Rest ye in peace, ye Flanders dead.
The fight that ye so bravely led
We've taken up. And we will keep
True faith with you who lie asleep
With each a cross to mark his bed,
And poppies blowing overhead,
Where once his own lifeblood ran red.
So let your rest be sweet and deep
In Flanders fields.
Fear not that ye have died for naught.
The torch ye threw to us we caught.
Ten million hands will hold it high.
And Freedom's light shall never die!
We've learned the lesson that ye taught
In Flanders fields.

—R. W. Lillard

Notice

Ann Rutledge

EDGAR LEE MASTERS

(Born Garnet, Kansas, August 23, 1869)

Out of me unworthy and unknown
The vibrations of deathless music;
"With malice toward none, with charity for all."
Out of me the forgiveness of millions toward millions,
And the beneficent face of a nation
Shining with justice and truth.
I am Ann Rutledge who sleeps beneath these weeds,
Beloved in life of Abraham Lincoln,
Wedded to him, not through union,
But through separation.
Bloom forever, O Republic,
From the dust of my bosom!

Page 1

PAGES

...part of an article on ...Poage family in Virginia. ...brothers, Robert and John ...ved their importation at ...own charges" at Orange ...house in 1740.— The Po... ...ontas Poages are the de... ...dants of Robert Poage, ...settled between Staunton ...Fort Defiance. His wife ...Elizabeth Preston. An ac... ...of the Poages is given in ...'s Historical Sketches of ...ahontas County," but this ...le gives some interesting ...mation—From a Staun... ...Newspaper.—

The Poage family was a ...minent one in and near ...unton, Virginia, in the years ...owing the arrival of the first ...bers as pioneer settlers, ...e hundred and more years ...

One of them, Colonel James ...oage, left Staunton, went to ...ntucky, and then to Ohio, ...ere he founded a new town ...called Staunton. Later the ...e was changed to Ripley. ...is caused us to do some per... ...al research at this end of ...e line.

We visited the old and new ...meteries at Fort Defiance, ...ch associated with Old Stone ...esbyterian Church, to see ...e many readable stones ...rked the graves of mem... ...of the Poage family. We ...ed, too, that occasionally ...e name was spelled Poague.

...As pointed out there are two ...meteries at Fort Defiance: ...e once near the church and a ...ch older burial ground east ...the present manse. Whether ...early, frame church once ...od near the older cemetery ...not known, but normally a ...metery usually was closely lo... ...ed in relation to the church.

...In th's older cemetery, which ...closed with a sturdy stone ...l and the grass within the ...sure well kept are several ...es bearing the name Poage ...Poague. Some of these in... ...ptions include:

...Our father, Major William ...Poage, born March 18, 1781, ...September 23, 1855.

...Thomas Poage, Captain, An... ...e's Company, Virginia, ...1813.

...John Poage, member of Cap... ...Doyle's Company, Fifth ...Regiment Wounded

6)

Page 3.

ward purchasing the communion silver. Her gift caused other members of the congregation to make new and special efforts to contribute. The silver was saved.

Later Margaret's husband ordered six silver spoons from England for her; so her long desire was fulfilled. Five of these spoons are said to have come into the possession of Mrs. Augusta Harmon Pattie, of Waynesboro. The sixth went to a Poage from Texas. Since "P" was engraved on the spoons, the family agreed Mrs. Pattie should have them. She is a direct descendant in the Poage line.—

About twelve miles northwest of Old Stone Church is a stone dwelling, now occupied by Mrs. Margaret Carroll, a descendant of the Poages. This house is said to be the original Poage residence in the Valley of Virginia.

End of series on the Poage family and its associations in the Valley of Virginia and in Southern Ohio.

61 "TIMES"

Page 3

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End of series on the Poage family and its associations in the Valley of Virginia and in Southern Ohio.

Page 2

POAGES

It is believed the Poages [illegible] the Old Stone Church [illegible] began to gather for worship about 1737, probably meeting in homes of the people since no reference to [illegible] meeting or organized church [illegible] Old Stone Church [illegible] the communion set, the silver service was purchased [illegible] be constructed.

Old Stone Church was completed in 1740, dedicated in 1742, and the present [illegible] added in 1908. It served as a fort during the Indian wars after General Braddock's defeat.

Information to this effect is contained on a bronze tablet [illegible] present on an exterior wall of the church, placed there in 1925 by the General Thomas Hughart Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution.

In the newer churchyard there are stones mentioning four Poages, as follows:

John H. Poage died June 12, 1870, 68 years, 11 months, and 7 days.

James Poage (born) November 13, 1826, died at the age of 71 year, 7 months, and 12 days.

Nancy E., wife of James Poage, [illegible] January 8, 1870, aged 37 years, 8 months, and 25 days.

Poage, baby son of W. N. and M. V. Wilson. No dates appear on this stone.

The name Poage is associated with Old Stone Church's communion service which was made in England in or near 1787. It is still in use—at least every quarter when this ritual is observed.

When not in use one Sunday each three months, the silver is maintained in a glass display case in the church's museum. It consists of three flagons, six goblets, and two bread plates. It is believed that originally there were three plates.

The cost of this communion service is not known, but it is reported that when purchased it represented the price of a good sized plantation.

For insurance purposes today the service is given this value: goblets, $100 each; trays, $100 each; flagons $350 each.

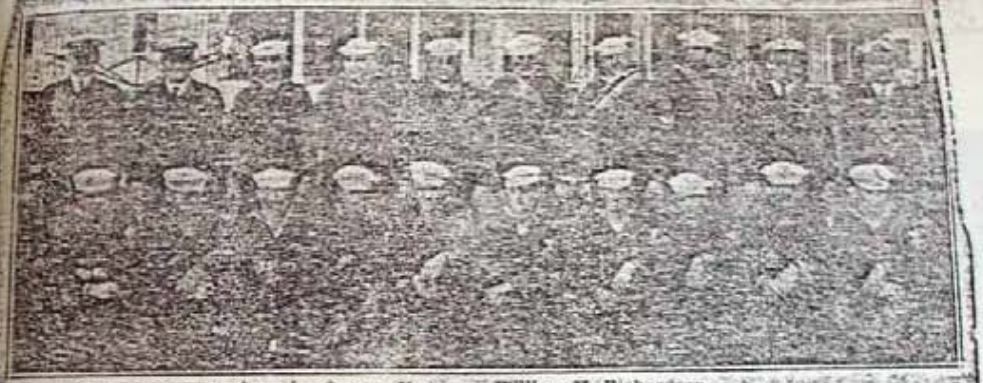
These are estimated to be replacement cost.

In her book "Stories of the Shenandoah," Mrs. Gladys Hauserman Clem of this city recounts that a Poage of the gentler sex, believed to have been Margaret Poage, saved that communion service from being shipped back to England.

When it arrived the price was said to have been far more than the congregation had expected, so the feeling was it should be returned. However, Margaret Poage arose and said she would give the money she had been saving for silver spoons for her own table to-

"Washington Post Oct. 1935" 62

Greenbury Point High Power Radio Station



Lieut. Samuel K. Groseclose, in charge (Va.).
William J. Volkman, executive officer (Colo.).
John Edward Toomey, chief radio man.
Charles E. Gerry, chief machinist mate.
Glen L. Vaughan, radio man, 1st class (W. Va.).
Ralph M. Shaver, radio man, 2d class (Pa.).
Cullen E. Snyder, radio man, 2d class.
Maxmilliam C. Haneke, ships cook, 2d class.
Harold Peterson, radio man, 2d class.
Raymond P. McIntyre, radio man, 2d class.
John Jock, mess cook.
William H. Richardson.
Preston F. Ellis, radio man, 2d class.
William E. Eaimon, radio man, 2d class.
Otto Lutzmann, radio man, 2d class (N. J.).
Charles Irving Delp, electrician mate, 1st class.
Ralph F. Sides, radio man, 1st class.
Gaddis I. Hendy, radio man, 2d class.
Earl A. Hoffman, radio man, 1st class.
Joseph L. Driscoll, water tender, 1st class.
Louis C. Zellnar, carpenters mate, 1st class.

Across the river from the Naval Academy, Annapolis, is the Navy's high power radio transmitting station. Here on a beautiful 180-acre reservation are 21 crack radio men, who, in time of war, might easily control the destiny of our nation.... Lieut. Samuel K. Groseclose, Southwest Virginian, commands the station. This young officer says he really should get married for his assigned quarters are much too large for a lone bachelor. And why not? He's handsome, a good dancer, an Academy man and just a bit mysterious from three years in Asia.

William J. Volkman, executive officer, grows reminiscent about Siberia—it's good food, lots of winter, and those pretty Russian girls. Bill's a crack shot and great golfer—when he hits the ball. And he, as chief executioner of old goats, went out one frosty morning and shot Big Goat Billy, the Navy mascot, because he was too feeble for service... John Edward Toomey is chief transmitter and ah, but there's a lad for you! Bring out your superlatives. He knows all the good things about the crew and is friendly and accommodating to strangers. Handsome, too!... Charles E. "Monkey Wrench" Gerry, looks after the machinery—massages all the lawn mowers and tinkers with asthmic motors. He loves children and dogs—has five of each, a dog for each child, and he takes in all stray dogs.

Glen L. Vaughan, Pawpaw, W. Va., is called the information bureau because of his memory. He eats big fat sandwiches all day long, at least five daily—nothing stops him, that's how he came to be known as the "Five-Sandwich-Man."

Ralph M. "Klicker" Shaver is jokingly termed the station gigolo, because he's a ladies' man. Last year Klicker won the Navy championship for climbing those 610-foot steel radio towers... Cullen E. Snyder, Pennsylvania, frog-hunter first class of the Navy, kills bullfrogs and eats 'em... Maximillian C. Haneke, "Sea Hag," or ship's cook, is the best bean jockey in the Navy and the worst pool shooter... Harold Peterson, "cheerful cherub" and official stenographer, is so friendly and helpful that the boys tell him all their troubles as if he were their "sky pilot."... Raymond P. McIntyre upholds the high standards of Maine, plays second base on the ball team and is also a champion wooden pole climber. He's the only man who can climb the slender 75-foot flagpole at the station... John Jock, Scotch mess cook, walks 10 miles a day, rain or shine. Never gets his feet wet. He walks so fast he misses the puddles... William H. Richardson is the best-dressed man and the station's official correspondent to the submarine base—New London, Conn.

Preston F. Ellis is recuperating from a serious illness, so he has lots of time to spoil his new baby daughter, Charon Lynn, named for two Massachusetts towns... William E. Eaimon recently came out second best in a bout with a bus near Quantico. Bill woke up with 27 stitches on his head, but now both he and the bus are doing nicely... Otto Lutzmann recently caught 45 hardheads in less than three hours. And he'd rather walk to town than ride—thinks nothing of a 24-mile stroll. And listen, girls, he once won a beauty contest for men. But those jumping Navy mascot goats pester him to death—he's their official tender, you know, and Otto is threatening to put up a sign: "Goats, please do not jump the fence"... Jolly Charles "Jughead" Irving Delp is the life of the station, but has serious aspirations, he wants to beat Campbell's speed record. ... Ralph F. Sides is a heavyweight athlete. Proud of his 5-months-old daughter, Mary Anne, because she's so strong—takes that after her dad. Ralph is manager of the station's ball team. And what a team! Never lost a game. Recently they "licked" Arlington Radio Station in a game refereed by Big Bill Freitag, former Washington-Jefferson College football star.

Gaddis I. Hendy is a new man full of vim and vigor and so eager to learn his job he works overtime... Earl A. Hoffman is now serving his third tour of duty at the Station. He's the blues crooner and champion welterweight of the crew... Joseph L. Driscoll makes things merry with his harmonica. He loves old Irish songs, but you ought to hear him sing "Show Me the Way to Go Home"... Louis "Chips" Zellnar is a new man. The station's mystery man. He's been making a lot of picture frames. Why? Nobody knows. Surely he's not going to frame the radio messages he sends... All these sailors are interesting, ambitious and trustworthy and "every man is d—— efficient, or he wouldn't be there"—that's what the lieutenant said.—M. E. C.

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DATE ?

POCAHONTAS TIMES
(Page 2)
Published every Thursday except the last week of the year.
Entered at the Post Office at Marlinton, West Virginia 24954, as second class matter.
SUBSCRIPTION CHARGES
In Pocahontas County $3.00 a year. Elsewhere $4.00 a year. In advance.
JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR
THURSDAY, FEB. 15, 1973

Over 80

F. M. Sutton

I was born in Doddridge County in 1884, came to Pocahontas when I was five years old, and have spent around seventy of my 89 years in Pocahontas County.

I got all of my schooling on Beaver Creek, getting to the sixth grade. Mrs. Alice Brooks was my first teacher and John S. Moore was my next. Our school terms were only 3 or 4 months long. I pretty well knew my letters—my mother taught them to me out of the Pocahontas Times. Some of my folks say "Why are you so interested in that paper—you don't know everybody in Pocahontas." But I am just foolish enough to believe I do know 15 per cent of them. I still love the name Pocahontas; it may be because I am about one-third Indian. I guess the reason I love the Pocahontas hills is because I believe I have seen the top of every hill in the County. That is what made me tough: I am still tough as a pine knot—I can walk five or six miles and never catch a long breath. I sometimes look back to see if my grandson is coming.

I worked on the farm until I was grown, then went to the log woods. My first job away from home was with J. H. Buzzard on the farm and on the mail route from Marlinton to Dilley's Mill. From there I went to the log camp in the white pine woods and on the log drives to Ronceverte. I think I worked on just about every logging job but one—that was Glen Galford's job. I worked on seven different logging jobs in Greenbrier County. So I guess the old saying is right after all, "A rolling stone gathers no moss."

I worked from one day to six years on these jobs. I would quit a job and go to another for fifty cents more on the week. For about 19 years we worked in the woods for $1.25 per day. When we got up to $1.45, we thought we had it made. We worked from 6 until 6 for that. I came to Kanawha County to work on a 33-acre farm for G. G. Smith. He handled show horses and had three hundred thousand dollars worth of purebred horses. I worked five years for him and then moved to town of St. Albans. In 1959 my wife died and then I came to Nitro and still live here at 23—31st Street East, Nitro. This is just a short sketch. I could write a book and not get started.

Twenty-Five Years Ago "The Pocahontas Times"

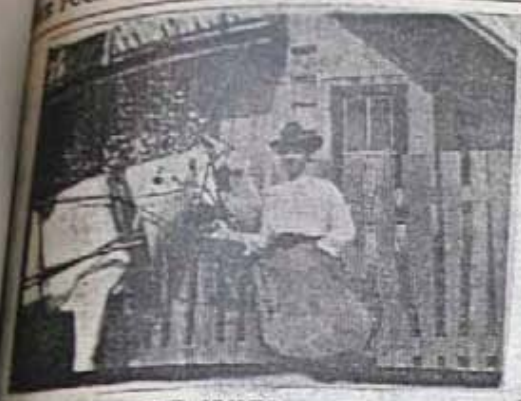
Five tickets on the Town ballot. Running for mayor were: J. W. Reynolds, J. M. Bear, Dr. N. R. Price and G. S. Callison on two tickets. Also a Ballot For and Against cows running at large in the Town of Marlinton.

Deaths: Mrs. Salina Beard McNeel, Ponca City, Oklahoma.

The Seneca Trail—

The Seneca Indians were the keepers of the Warrior's Road. At first they were the standing army of the five civilized Indian nations. The term war path came from a young brave joining the Senecas and taking the war road, to demonstrate his courage and prowess. Under the treaty of 1732 between the British Crown and the Indians, this road marked the boundary between Indian lands of the west and British possessions on the east. The road extended from Seneca Lake in New York to Northern Georgia. Traces of it can be seen in the campus of Davis & Elkins College at Elkins; on the hill near the residence of Dr. Norman R. Price and near the residence of the late George Kee, at Marlinton. Also at a number of places on Droop Mountain. It came by Mingo across Gibson's Knob on Elk Mountain, down Indian Draft to Campbelltown, across Jerico Flat and down to Price Run, over to the Red House, up Kee Run to the Kee Rocks, across the flat to Buckeye, up the Bridger Mountain to Douglas McNeil's Seneca Trail Farm, through the gap where the Bridger brothers were killed by Indians. On up the mountain to the High Rocks, around the top of Cranberry and Caeser to Droop, across Droop by the way of healing spring and Bear Town down to Spice Run; over to Little Creek, and thence to White Sulphur; up the draft to Monroe County and New River. Route 219 in a general way follows the Warrior's Road and for that reason it is called the Seneca Trail.

POCAHONTAS TIMES - APRIL 12, 1973—Page 9



SUE CROMER

Sue Cromer was born on Cheat Mountain, about [illegible] miles west of Cheat Bridge, where we lived [illegible] a log cabin until 1902, when we moved to [illegible]t Bridge where she spent the rest of her [illegible]. She was the seventh of fourteen children [illegible] in 1906 at the age of sixteen she started [illegible]rying the mail by horseback from Cheat [illegible]ge to Durbin and back. The Post Office [illegible] then located in the Cheat Mountain Club [illegible]. She rode a side sadule for several years [illegible] carried it by horse and buggy. It was dur[illegible] the time she rode horseback that she suf[illegible]ed frozen feet. Many of us did not know [illegible]t that until her recent death.

She was a rugged outdoors type of person and [illegible] father, who was a surveyor and timber [illegible]er, frequently took her and two or three [illegible]r brothers on his trips in the mountains. [illegible] year they spent a whole summer searching [illegible] lines on the top of Cheat Mountain, camp[illegible]ut at night. One younger brother was sent [illegible] for supplies every day or two. She was with [illegible] down Elk River and the Gauley Mountain areas [illegible] year Mr. Slaymaker, owner of the Greenbrier, [illegible]t & Elk Company (later the West Virginia Pulp [illegible] Paper Company), sent Dad and his crew to [illegible] Carroline to estimate timber and Sue was [illegible] of the group.

[illegible] 1923 Sue became Postmaster at Cheat Bridge, [illegible] position she held until 1949 when the Gov[illegible]ent closed the post office and made it a [illegible] route.

She was a life-long member of the Durbin Methodist Church and, although she suffered a great deal of pain from several ailments, she was one of the most loyal members of her church I have ever known, missing only the last three Sundays of her life. She has many friends among the children in the neighborhood, as well as the grown-ups.

She was also a member of the Durbin Rebekah Lodge and served as Worthy Matron twice. She had one of the most alert memories for a person her age I have ever known. She could remember when people were born, died, or married—years ago or recently.

On March 23rd she received a Birthday Greeting from the President of our United States.

—Mary B. Cromer.

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Lewis' March

The descendants of the 1774 marchers to Point Pleasant gathered Saturday at Lewisburg but with not as much a show of force as their 1100 forefathers 200 years ago. Senator Robert Byrd and Congressman Harley Staggers honored the occasion with their presence and a memorial marker was dedicated later and unveiled by two young descendants, Virginia Lockwood Walls and John Stuart Arbuckle, at Lewis Park in Lewisburg. The event, the first Bi-centennial observance in the State, was sponsored by the Greenbrier Historical Society.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred McNeel, Richard McNeel, Jane Price Sharp, Mr. and Mrs. Kyle Beard, from Pocahontas, Rev. and Mrs. Elwood Clower, White Sulphur, C. E. McLaughlin and Mr. and Mrs. Andy McLaughlin, Lewisburg, the Arbuckle sisters Maxwelton, and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Dunlap, of Waynesboro, Virginia, were among those attending with Pocahontas connections.

Dunmore's War

Following is the roster of the men in General Andrew Lewis' Division who followed him to Point Pleasant in 1774, marching from Lewisburg. This division is one of several but it contains the names of the people who lived in what is now Pocahontas County.

This Saturday, September 14, is the day of the celebration of the event at the State Fair Grounds.

Lewis's Division, John Bailey, James Barnett, Jacob Baugh, Thomas Ball, Alexander Brocksbridge, Low Brown, George Carr, William Casey, John Cotright, Duncan Cullion, Samuel Handley, Thomas Hart, Benjamin Haynes, Edmund Jennings, Andrew Kishioner and Jaibes, John McKinney, Alexander McNeil, Brice Martin, Joseph Mayse (Maze), William Moore, Jacob Pereinger, Andrew Reid, John Steele, Walter Steward, John Tipton, James Trimble, Jacob Warwick, David and William White, William Wilson.

John Arbuckle, William Arbuckle, John Arbuckle, John Bailey, Francis Berry, Blair, Moses Bowen, Rees Bowen, Curroughs, Hugh Cameron, Robert Campbell, Capt. William Christian, Clay, Alexander Clendennin, Charles Clendennin, George Clendennin, Robert Clendennin, William Clendennin, Leonard Cooper, Coward, Joseph Crockett, Lieutenant Dillon, Robert Dunlap, William Ewing, William Easthorn, James Ellison, Geroge Findley.

Jeremiah Friel, Lieut. George Gibson, John Gilmore, John Grim, James Hamilton, Philip Hammond, John Hayes, Lieut. John Henderson, Hickman, Ellis Hughes, John Jones, Charles Kennison, Edward Kennison, Simon Kenton, Samuel Lewis, Thomas Lewis, Ensign Joseph Long, John Lyle, John McNeel, John Moore, Captain Morrow (Murry), Walter Newman, John Prior (Pryor), Alexander Reed, Lieut. William Robbertson, Robison, William Saulsbury, Capt. William Shelby, George Slaughter, Conrad Smith, William Stephen, John Steward, Lieut. T. Tate, William Tate, Robert Thompson, John Trotter, Isaac Van Bibber, Jesse Van Bibber, John Van Bibber, Peter Van Bibber, Andrew Waggoner, James Welch and Bazaleel Wells.

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JANE PRICE SHARP, EDITOR

THURSDAY, FEB. 26, 1976

Pioneer Days—July 9-11, '76

A Bicentennial Patriotic Program is being planned for the 4th of July in Marlinton.

Bicentennial in Hillsboro

After listening to an inspiring Revolutionary War song entitled "The Battle of Trenton," Hillsboro's Bicentennial Committee began to plan a splendid program for 1976. A colorful parade, top-notch lecture series (including a session devoted to the history of Hillsboro), Bicentennial Community Picnic and an old-fashioned crafts demonstration day at the Pearl S. Buck Birthplace Museum are several of the events being planned.

For the celebration, Mrs. A. E. (Louise) McNeel and David H. Corcoran were named General Chairman and Secretary, respectively. Other chairmen and their committees are as follows: Edgar Starks- Parade Committee, Johnny B. Hill-Crafts, A. E. McNeel-Local History, Pastor and Mrs. Jack Arbuckle-dinner, Lawrence Workman-Clean-up, fix-up, and David H. Corcoran-Publicity and Lecture Series.

According to Corcoran, the Bicentennial presents a rare opportunity for uniting the people of Hillsboro. "We can grow close," he said, "by discovering together and identifying with our rich history." Concurring, Edgar Starks said: "Our committee invites the people and clubs to participate in order to make 1976 our greatest year yet." Louise McNeel announced that Mayor Johnny Kinnison and the Town Council were also supporting the project. The Mayor is said to be "enthusiastic" about the prospect of Hillsboro being named as a "Bicentennial City."

The first planning meeting was held on last Monday night February 23 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. McNeel. Refreshments were served after the meeting.

To volunteer for service on a committee, or for further information contact either Louise McNeel at 653-4814 or David H. Corcoran at 653-4430, or anyone of the committee chairmen listed above.

(1971)

66.

Edgar H. Williams

Edgar H. Williams, 86, of Marlinton, died Thursday, January 21, 1971, in a Summersville nursing home following a long illness.

Born October 18, 1884, he was a son of the late Dr. Richard and Hannah Sharp Williams.

Mr. Williams was engaged in lumber business for over 50 years and served as president of Marlinton Lumber Company and Williams and Pifer Lumber Company.

He was a former director of Pendleton County Bank at Franklin and was an honorary director of the First National Bank in Marlinton.

He was formerly a distributor of Conoco Oil and Ashland Oil companies. He also has served as manager and president of the Pocahontas County Fair, president of the Pocahontas Telephone Company, president of the Pocahontas Furniture Company, and a former merchant, and engaged in farming for over fifty years.

Preceding him in death were two sisters, Mrs. Lena Poage and Mrs. Molly Johnson, and one brother, Dennis Williams.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Rosa Poage Williams; two daughters, Mrs. Thelma Weber, of Tallahassee, Florida, and Mrs. Grace Virginia Sharpenberg, of Wheeling; one son, Moffett Williams, of Marlinton; one half sister, Mrs. Mamie Pifer, of Huntington, and five grandchildren, Roger and Richard Williams, Ann, Paul and Thomas Sharpenberg.

Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon in the Marlinton Presbyterian Church by the Rev. Don Wood, with burial in the Mountain View Cemetery.

NOTE: DR. RICHARD WILLIAMS WAS FIRST PERSON BURRIED IN MT. VIEW CEMETERY, MARLINTON, W.Va.

THE POCAHONTAS TIMES - DECEMBER 18, 1975

History of Knapps Creek Community

Consisting of "The Hills," Frost, Knapp's Creek, and Minnehaha Neighborhoods

Written by Enid Harper, In 1924

In the eastern part of Pocahontas County, West Virginia, is Knapps Creek which has its source in the Alleghany Mountains about five miles above Frost. Its two branches unite at Frost from which place it continues to flow along the base of the mountains to the place where it empties into the Greenbrier River at Marlinton, a distance of almost twenty miles from Frost. The East fork of the creek is fed by a stream which comes forth out of the rugged mountain side near Paddys Knob, a peak with an elevation of 4450 feet.

One of the principal tributaries of Knapps Creek of the Minnehaha neighborhood is Douthards Creek which carries with it the waters of Cochrans and Laurel Creeks. At Huntersville Knapps Creek receives two other streams, Browns Creek from one side and Cummings Creek from the other.

Springs.—Along the valley are numerous limestone springs, the waters of which are cold, an indication of purity. These help to make the creek larger. The first of them is a bold spring gushing out from under a hill near the fine home of S. Gibson. Further down the valley we find the stream called Hill Run near I.B. Moore's which receives water from a number of springs within a half mile. Next is the Mill Run at D.W. Dever's flowing through his farm where fine cattle graze. From here we go on to W. G. Ruckman's where there is another stream of about equal volume. The source of it is also a magnificent never-failing stream.

Last but not least is the famous Minnehaha Spring on the Lockridge property. The crystal water of this spring is of a healing and medical nature. It has been shipped to various parts of the country.

Origin of Names.—"The Hills" is the hilly region on the northwest of the valley. These are very productive lands and are excellent for fruit and grazing. They were at one time heavily timbered but now only small tracts remain uncut.

The creek from which our good community takes its name was known as Ewings Creek in the earliest land papers but was soon changed to Knapps Creek in honor of a man by the name of Knapp who came into the

valley from Virginia prior to 1749. His report of this country probably led Marlin and Sewell to make explorations in the Greenbrier Valley. At first the name of the creek was spelled N-a-p-s, later it was changed to K-n-a-p-p-s.

While here Knapp lived in a cabin on the west side of the creek about opposite the place where Mrs. P.L. Cleek now resides. It is not definitely known what became of him.

Indians.—There are evidences that the Indians once roamed through the thick forests which covered what is now our beautiful section of country. Pieces of flint have been found by our citizens which were no doubt used by the Red Race. There was an Indian burial ground on a flat above the road a short distance up the valley from I.B. Moore's dwelling. Indications were to the older people that several Indians had been buried here. It has been said that a few relics were found in later years when some excavations were made.

Early Settlers.—Michael Dougherty, a native of Ireland, settled in our valley near where W. G. Ruckman lives about the year of 1770. He was one of the first to occupy the Knapps Creek Region.

The same year Moses Moore of Virginia, came to Knapps Creek. It is interesting to note that he bought the land extending from J. L. Herold's to D. W. Dever's for the consideration of two steel bear traps and two pounds of English sterling. One of the

(Continued from former page)

traps is in the possession of I. B. Moore at this writing. The original cabin of Moses Moore was built on land now owned by Mrs. Myrta Moore.

Mr. Moore was fond of hunting and would frequently spend several days in the region of the Upper Greenbrier searching for game. One Sunday morning while sitting at his camp reading the Bible he was surrounded and captured by five or six Indians who compelled him to march to Ohio with them but through his cunningness he managed to escape and return to what is now Pocahontas county.

It is believed that the pioneer, Felix Grimes and his wife selected a site for a home in the Hills near the Mt. Zion Church at a date preceding 1800.

Old records show that John Sharp, Sr., Christopher Herold, Henry Harpe., and John Dilley settled in our community between the years of 1800 and 1825 inclusive. We should also mention that Lanty Lockridge and Michael Cleek came to the valley early in the nineteenth century.

It was a task for the pioneers to clear the forest and build their homes with the poor equipment they had. They worked with a shop made pool axe. In places the thickets of white thorn and wild crab was almost impenetrable. When a primitive forest of white pine, sugar maple, and other trees of large size was cut, a log-rolling was soon in order and they were burned. Bears and wolves were numerous and sheep had to be penned near by the house to protect them.

Land.—Any of these hardy pioneers were granted land by James Monroe, John Tyler, and other governors of Virginia between the years of 1800 and 1825. Some of them made difficult trips to Richmond in order that the title for the land where they settled might be made good. The value of the land was small in comparison with the cost per acre now. Old land grants show that one conveyance of land was made as late as 1857 at a little more than one cent per acre. This was a tract of timber land containing 11,000 acres in the Alleghany Mountains which extended over to Back Creek. The sum paid for it only sixty-seven years ago was $150. Since that time it has been sold and re-sold and millions of feet of valuable timber has been cut on it.

Making of a Rifle.—At one time a man by the name of Evick lived in what is known as the Evick Hollow near Grover Moore's. He manufactured the Evick Rifle which was a

(Continued on next page)

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famous gun in its day. We are told that one of these guns may be seen at The Pocahontas Times Office. There may be some other hollows along the mountain that received names from men who were not permanent settlers.

Timber and Saw Mills.—A fine lot of white pine timber stood along the foot of the Alleghany. Nearly all the good trees that grew on the level were destroyed because the settlers needed improved land more than timber. A number of sugar groves were left for the purpose of making maple sugar and molasses.

The mountain timber has been going on the market since 1890. The white pine was cut first. The logs were peeled and floated down Knapps creek and the Greenbrier River to Ronceverte where they were manufactured by the St. Lawrence Manufacturing Company.

Capt. A. E. Smith and James Whiting, who did business under the firm name of Smith and Whiting, had ten million feet of white pine cut each year for a period of six or seven years.

At that time the hardwood seemed to be of little value. During the past fifteen or twenty years it has been cut rapidly, perhaps as much as one hundred and fifty to two hundred million feet have been taken from Knapps Creek and Douthards Creek and some valuable tracts are still standing.

The first saw mills to dot this section were the up and down mills run by water power. If we are rightly informed, there were three of these; one owned and operated by the Moore's at a point about opposite the Moore school house, one was on the Lockridge farm where Douthards creek unites with Knapps creek, and the third mill was built by Henry Harper and operated by him and his son Samuel, for a number of years. This last mill continued sawing until about 1890 and was the last mill of its kind to be operated in the community. Sometime during the eighties P. M. Harper sawed lumber on this mill to build his house with the grist mill Mr. Harper had a sawmill which has already been mentioned, a tan yard, and one of the old fashioned tilt-hammer blacksmith shops. The tilt-hammer was run by waterpower. The mill for grinding grain crushed the kernels between two large revolving stones which were brought from Rockbridge County, Virginia. It was not used longer than 1896.

A mill of later years was the one built by Wellington G. Ruckman on the same stream where Michael Daugherty had the first one. Mr. Ruckman did grinding on this mill for a period of eleven years, discontinuing the industry probably twelve or fifteen years ago.

The Civil War.—No battles of the Civil War were fought on the territory embraced within the Knapps Creek Community—but brave men who have lived here were in the service. Some were valiant soldiers of the Federal Army while others joined the ranks of the Confederacy. Squads of Yankees frequently passed through this section and General Averill, a Union Commander, with his army, camped one night at Frost, marching on the next day to Huntersville.

Establishment of Post Offices—A postoffice was established at the village of Frost in 1853. Francis Dever was the first postmaster. In conversing with the oldest person in the community, Mrs. Ellen Buzzard, who was ninety-nine years of age on June 23, 1924, she says she does not remember how the name originated, but the presumption is that the name Frost was given to the office on account of the high altitude. Early storekeepers were Francis Dever, Stuart Wade, Samuel Gibson, and J. B. Hannah.

Before "Uncle Sam" favored the people with a Rural Free Delivery Route there was a post office on Knapps Creek near the Mt. Carmel and Westminster Churches known as Sunset. Someone suggested this

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NOTE: PAGE 69A SHOULD BE ENTERED HERE.

where Mrs. E. A. Pritchard now lives.

The first circular saw mill in this neighborhood was brought here from Augusta county, Virginia, for Wise Herold and Ja B. Moore. Many people visited the new mill to observe its working.

Grist Mills.—The first mill to grind grain was the one owned by Michael Daugherty on the Mill Run where he settled. Peter Lightner, who was a well known citizen here in 1855, had a mill on the run at D. W. Dever's. Joseph Sharp, a pioneer of Frost, had a where A. A. Sharp now resides, one-half mile from the village.

Henry Harper also had a grist mill which ground wheat, corn and buckwheat. It was located on the farm owned by Harmon Shinaberry. In connection

(Continued)

name because there was an office directly east of here in Bath County, Virginia, by the name of Sunrise.

Another postoffice which was not established till later years was called Driscol, and derived its name from Col. John Driscol who had much timber cut in this region. D. B. McElwee was the postmaster at Driscol for a number of years. In 1914, largely through the efforts of our highly esteemed physician, Dr. J. B. Lockridge, deceased, a nice hotel was built for the accommodation of tourists and all those seeking a pleasant summer resort surrounded by beautiful mountain scenery. The next year the Allegheny Club House was built. It is also a magnificent building, well located on a hill overlooking Knapps Valley. When these improvements were made the name of the place was changed from Driscol to Minnehaha Springs, an Indian name signifying "Laughing Water."

When mail was first carried to the early established offices it was only brought on Wednesdays and Saturdays. One of the early mail routes was Huntersville to Mill Gap in Virginia.

Roads—The people were very much handicapped in their efforts to travel. Like Daniel Boone when he went to Kentucky they had to make the roads when they came to the country. The first known road leading from what is now Virginia into the Knapps Creek Valley came across the Allegheny Mountains just opposite the old Harper Mill. We find from the old land grants made by governors of Virginia where corners were called for on this road which was then known as Knapp's Spur, or the Spur Road. This name was likely given it because it was the road traveled by Mr. Knapp who will always be honored by the valley that has been named for him.

While road is now only a pathway and but little traveled in this age of automobiles it shows evidence of having been dug or graded in a few places where it leads up a ridge on each side of the mountain. For years the people of Back Creek used it in coming horseback to the Harper Mill bringing their grain to be ground.

The first wagon brought to Pocahontas County was brought over Knapp's Spur Road and was taken up the hollow where Westminster Church now stands and which was known as Ervine Hollow at that time, and on to Clover Lick where it was used.

As the valley improved and fields fenced the road was kept on the Allegheny side the greater part of the way. On account of the shade and ice there in winter parts of it were changed from time to time until the entire road was made on the opposite side of the valley. The last change was made about forty years ago by two colored men, Jacob Kernel and Andrew Daughterty of Frost.

The State re-graded the road in 1923, making it much wider to accommodate the increased traffic.

Churches—In 1833 Mt. Zion Church in "The Hills" was built. It is a log structure but has been materially repaired and is still used for a house of worship. Previous to the erection of Mt. Vernon Church the people of Upper Knapps Creek attended services at Mt. Zion. Many of them went horseback across the country by the way of the Mill Run at I. B. Moore's.

Mt. Vernon Church was erected in 1856. A noticeable feature of this building is the good quality of the lumber used. Scarcely a defective spot can be seen in the ceiling. John McElwee and son did the carpenter work. All the lumber was planed by hand at the shop on the land owned by Moses Moore who was a noted Christian character.

Trinity M. E. Church at Frost was dedicated in 1888. The opening prayer was offered by Rev. Wm. T. Price of Marlinton. The dedicatory sermon was preached by Rev. Mr. Niece of Monroe County. His text was 'aken from Galatians, sixth chapter and second verse: "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." Rev. George Spencer was the pastor in charge. Other ministers present were Wm. and O. B. Sharp, both natives of Frost.

New Hope Lutheran at Minnehaha was built in 1893 through efforts of Henry White, Sr., and his family who came to Douthards Creek in 1876. Before building the church they had occasional services by Lutheran pastors in their homes, in nearby churches, and in schoolhouses. For some years after the building of the church the congregation was supplied by the ministers from the South Branch Charge of Highland County, Virginia. Later it had a pastor of its own, but at the present time it is again supplied by an occasional visiting pastor. During all this time there has been a Sunday School in progress and to the present time the little band of Lutherans have been loyal to the church of their choice.

The Westminster Presbyterian Church was built in 1903, Rev. G. W. Nickell was pastor. A few years after the church was completed, probably in 1908, the first Huntersville District Sunday School Convention was held in it with W. A. G. Sharp, President, and J. C. Harper, Secretary. In 1923 the first county convention to be held in Huntersville District convened here.

Mt. Carmel M. E. Church South was dedicated October 1, 1905, Rev. H. L. Hout, of Roanoke, Virginia, preached the dedicatory sermon, Rev. J. D. Pope was pastor in charge. While digging for the foundation of this church the workmen found some pewter spoons, and other articles which were no doubt at one time the property of William Moore and wife who came here about 1780 and built a home on the bank where the church stands. They were not relatives of other Moores of the county. They lived and died at this home and were buried on the east side of the creek just below the grove of pine trees near the line, separating the land owned by Mrs. E. A. Pritchard and G. M. Sharp.

Schools—We do not boast of any high school in our community at this writing for reason that the settlement is a scattered one, but we are proud of the progress the schools have made since the age of

(Continued to another page)

Continued

the log schoolhouse.

We are unable to say when the first school was taught in Frost. A person now living tells us of one being taught there in an old store building before the Civil War. At some later period a one room schoolhouse was built near the location of the present two-roomed house. This was abandoned in 1912 and a modern schoolhouse was erected. In 1923 it was found to be too small to accommodate the pupils who should attend and an additional room was added.

When the Civil War began school was being taught by Miss Mattie Gum, the mother of the late George Gingar, of Huntersville, in a log school house which stood on the knoll near L. R. Hively's residence. The next building used for school in the Sunset neighborhood was on the hill not far from J. A. Cleeks. The last term taught here was by Enoch H. Moore in the year of 1896 and 1897. By the next winter a new building had been constructed at the present location. It was destroyed by fire a few years ago. The building in which school is taught now, was located on the site of the old one.

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THURSDAY, DEC. 18, 1975

Continued

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The Moore schoolhouse first stood on the east side of the creek at the foot of the Allegheny Mountain, a short distance above Coe Beverage's, as the road was there at that time. Later, after the road was changed the schoolhouse of this sub-district was built further up the valley above C. D. Newman's. When it was decided that this structure could not be used any longer the house in which school is taught at this time was built.

The first school taught at Cove Hill near Frost was approximately in 1894 by J. M. Barnett.

Douthards Creek schoolhouse was built in 1910. It has also been used for preaching services and Sunday School.

A one-room building was first at Minnehaha Springs. It was probably erected twenty-five years ago. The two-roomed building was put up in 1915. W. L. Herold was the contractor.

Homes—The pioneer homes have mostly been replaced by new modern buildings. A telephone line reaches nearly every one. Many of the houses have been provided with water system and light plants.

The only brick residence in the valley is the one where I. B. Moore dwells. Mr. Moore's father had this house built. The man who had the contract burned the brick and did all the work for the consideration of two sorrel horses. The home has been well preserved to this day.

Conclusion—In conclusion I wish to say that Knapp's Creek Community has furnished to the world ministers, college professors, a judge, doctors, lawyers, civil engineers, teachers and people of many professions. Seven teachers have come from Douthard's Creek School alone since 1910.

We are all very much indebted to Rev. Wm. T. Price for the history he recorded and left us. It is to be hoped that the people of each neighborhood will follow his example and keep a record of future events in a more accurate manner than they have in the days past.

Note: This page should be added to Page 71. in Vol. I. Part is overprinted.

More about the boy in the snow. We talked Monday to him—Denver Arbogast, now living in Durbin and working for Howes Leather Company.

He is married to the former Virginia Ryder and they have a daughter, Bonnie, who is Mrs. Franklin Curry, of Warren, Ohio.

He was a 12 year old boy and living with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dixie Arbogast, in the upper end of the Sinks in northern Pocahontas. (His parents now live at Durbin).

It was February 25, 1935. There was a blizzard and the whole family—there were seven children then—was sick with the flu and/or measles. A baby was due to be born.

Denver started for Durbin and waded snow up to his waist. It took him 5 or 6 hours to get to Dr. A. E. Burner, in Durbin, and the good doctor went back with him. They went part of the way by car, walked part of the way, and rode a horse part of the way. The CCC boys at Camp Thornwood helped open the road for them. Dr. Burner got there to doctor the family and deliver a son, Henry. The Dixie Arbogasts have a total of 14 children.

The neighboring folk and the CCC boys got it all together and sent the story to the famous radio program, "We, the People," and in about a week Denver was off to New York. Olet Mullenax took him to Ronceverte to catch the train and Denver went off by himself to New York City as the guest of the Philip Morris Company.

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THURSDAY, MAR. 4, 1976

Pioneer Days—July 9-11, '76

The Cass Railroad

The Cass Scenic Railroad isn't a new or young track. It's well past retirement age.

The year of 1901 the C & O line came into Cass. Immediately the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Co. began lumbering at Cass.

The West Virginia Pulp and Paper Co. started the track up Leatherbark Creek in 1902. After the railroad reached over the mountain top and on to Spruce, it branched out in two directions, then it grew very big.

There was a time when the railroad, which is now the Cass Scenic Railroad, was under the name GC &E. The letters stood for Greenbrier Cheat and Elk. Those were the areas served by it.

This railroad company had three of the biggest engines, of their kind, ever built. The newest one, #14 was sold to Western Maryland Railroad to be used as a helper on Thomas Mountain north of Elkins. The engineer, Guy Stanley, was sold along with the locomotive.

From the top of the mountain the track extends toward Bald Knob. This section of the railroad was built by the Mower Lumber Company.

During the second World War the Mower Lumber Company bought a small Shay engine from the Birch Valley Lumber Company at Tioga. Frank (Young Piney) Williams was sent to Tioga to prepare the locomotive for the trip to Cass by way of Western Maryland and Spruce.

The Cass shop had some of the best mechanics. They restored the Tioga locomotive to like new shape. It served the Mower Lumber Company well as long as they needed it. Walter Good, a veteran at the throttle, was the engineer.

The Cass Scenic Railroad has an interesting history, as has the Town of Cass. The railroad, the Town of Cass, and their history should be preserved.

B. Nelson
Phoenix, Arizona

Golden Wedding Anniversary

(From "50 Years Ago" Column of the Highland Recorder, of May 31, 1956.

PRICE - MILLIGAN

A very beautiful wedding was solemnized at the home of Mr and Mrs. J. W. Milligan, on Camden Avenue, Tuesday, May 22, 1906, at 8 o'clock, when Calvin W. Price and Miss Mabel Milligan were united in marriage by Rev. William T. Price, the father of the groom.

(The Recorder wisher our distinguished fellow-editor and his good companion hearty felicitations on the occasion of their golden anniversary. May you have many more.)

Mr. Calvin W. Price mentioned above was one of those mentioned on the cover page as being so much help to youngsters, besides being a Scout Master with "G.D." he was one to give advise in many ways. Us youngsters could always depend on a few dimes once a week just by stopping at the Times Office and folding the papers for delivery to the Post office after wraping. He knew just where the fish were being caught and kind of bait to use. He would have Mr. L.O. Simmons, who worked on the papers to show his muscles - he being a large strong man from handling the heavy frames of type used for one page of the paper.

Mr. Price often had the hand bills that were printed for the many and various sales, shows, church affairs and other special events that took place before the paper came out. So much could be said about this one man that would fill many books. He was respected, loved and remembered by all who came in contact with him.

Another man mentioned above that I came to know quite well was Mr. J.W.Milligan, who had a planing and wood working mill about where the Clifton Forge Wholesale Grocery later stood - above the ice plant.

Mr. Price had taught me to save items from the paper about my family and also to collect history books. by the time I became a mid-teenager my collection was more than would stack in my room so Mr. Price suggested I build a shelf or shelves for a growing library. I measured what I thought I needed in the line of boards and set out for the planing mill. When Mr. Milligan found out what they were for he suggested that he help me measure and cut out the boards as I knew that was beyond me. Mr. Milligan even cut the boards, planed and beveled them - curved the sides so the top shelf would be used for books or pictures. When asked how much I owed him, he said 'Well that will come to $1.65.' He even told me to stop at Richardsons hardware store and obtain the correct size nails for a neat job.

From that time on I always had a great respect for Mr. Milligan, even if he frowned on youngsters hanging around his shop smoking.